

A close-up photograph of a large, mature tree trunk. The bark is thick and deeply fissured, showing a mix of grey and brown tones. Several smaller branches and twigs are wrapped around the main trunk, some with green leaves and others with dried, brown ones. The background is filled with more green foliage, creating a dense, natural setting.

Caledons Heritage Trees 2019

Introduction

If only trees could speak, they could recall much history and delight us with their stories. It is with great pleasure that we present the third Caledon Heritage Tree book, completed by volunteers of the Heritite Caledon committee. This book includes nominations from Caledon residents who participated in our public 2014 Apple Tree Hunt, a project to identify local 19th century remnant orchards and fruit trees.

The Town of Caledon is located at the north end of the Mississauga Tract, an area inhabited by the Mississauga peoples at the start of Euro-Canadian settlement in the region. By means of the Mississauga Purchase in 1805, the British Crown acquired lands along Lake Ontario at the southern end of the tract. The northern part of the tract was acquired through the Second Mississauga Purchase of 1818. Survey of these additional 648,000 acres began in 1819, establishing the townships of Chinguacousy, Caledon, Albion and Toronto Gore.

These townships were laid out in the double front survey system, which divided the land into lots, concession roads and sideroads. Used in Ontario from 1815 to 1829, this survey grid imposed an orderly settlement pattern on the land that persists to this day. The north-south roadways were called concession roads, and the land between them was termed a concession. Each concession was divided into 200 acre lots. These rectangular lots measured 30 x 67 chains and stretched between the concession roads. Sideroads ran east-west, generally occurring after every five lots. At this time, Crown grants were generally made in 100 acre half lots, typically being the east or west half of the 200 acre lot. The half lots fronted along the concession roads, their backs meeting in the middle of the concession. This double front system reduced survey work and established a pattern of double rows of farmsteads fronting the concession roads. While laying out the township lots and concessions, the provincial land surveyors also recorded details of the type of forest cover, waterways and swamps that existed, a truly valuable resource for historians.

The expansion of Upper Canada's frontier and its promise of land opened the floodgates for immigration. Settlers and land settlement companies were required to submit a formal request called a "petition" to the Crown to acquire land. Others, including military claimants, government officials, and United Empire Loyalists and their children, received free land grants in return for their services to the Crown. As well, many provincial land surveyors took payment for their services in land, often selecting prime locations.

Settlers were required to complete 'settlement duties' before receiving the Crown Patent (formal title) to their land. These duties included building a 16' x 20' house, clearing half the roadway in front of the lot, and clearing and fencing five acres of land within twelve months. Other early activities would have included planting a garden and orchard to provide food stuffs.

This heritage tree project initially started with "the hunt" for apple trees that are remnants of settlers' early orchards. However, we've also included other notable trees that we felt fit the definition of a heritage tree.

Paul L. Aird (Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto) provides the following definition of a heritage tree:

- A notable specimen because of its size, form, shape, beauty, age, colour, rarity, genetic constitution, or other distinctive features;
- A living relic that displays evidence of cultural modification by Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal people, including strips of bark or knot-free wood removed, test hole cut to determine soundness, furrows cut to collect pitch or sap, or blazes to mark a trail;
- A prominent community landmark;
- A specimen associated with a historic person, place, event or period;
- A representative of a crop grown by ancestors and their successors that is at risk of disappearing from cultivation;
- A tree associated with local folklore, myths, legends or traditions;
- A specimen identified by members of a community as deserving heritage recognition.

Aird, Paul, 2005. Forestry Chronicle website: The Forestry Chronicle, 2005, 81(4): 593, 10.5558/tfc81593-4
<http://pubs.cif-ifc.org/doi/abs/10.5558/tfc81593-4?journalCode=tfc>



Note: Comments made after the leaf symbol () are those of our committee members. Measurements of each tree were made at the standard Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) of 4.5 feet above the ground. The age of the trees is not confirmed, as we rely on the stories that are told about them. We have used only the first names of our contributors and identify private properties by the Ward they are located in. Public trees are identified by municipal street address. Comments regarding the 1877 map references the "Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Peel", published by Walker and Miles, Toronto 1877. All stories are written by Heritage Caledon volunteers unless otherwise noted.

Species: Apple (Ward 1)

Nominated/written by: Nicholas

My parents purchased part of the west half of lot 13, Con 5, EHS in 1969 from Wilbert Kee. The Kees' were a local farming family, and when dad bought the place, Wilbert told him that the two apple trees out front were planted when the house was built. They were meant to represent "father and mother". They were very old when we lived there, and no longer bore any fruit. Sadly, they were cut down in more recent years. I would have to stop by and visit the present owners to see if they know when.



🍁 The above photo shows the home, which was thought to have been built in the 1860s based on the brick patterning and rounded windows. However, based on the simplicity of the building style (three bay front with centre entrance, gable roof and end chimneys) it could easily be an 1850s building with an 1860s brick veneer.

There are many myths, folklore stories and legends regarding the symbolism of apples in different cultures and religions throughout history. Some feel that the concept of the ancestor or genealogical tree, relates to the frequency of father and mother trees. Trees were and are often planted for the birth of a new child or to honour family members. It was a tradition in German and Slav countries to plant one or two trees in front of the home of a newly wedded pair. Were Wilbert's trees planted to honour the couple who built memories here or simply to provide shade and a harvest close to the front door?

Species: Apple (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Doug

In February 1828, Philip Snyder, a farmer from Gainsborough, England was issued the Crown Patent for the full 200 acres of Lot 3, Concession I WHS, Caledon Township, 100 acres of which was awarded as a military grant in recognition for his service as a private in Flank Company 4th Regiment Lincoln Militia. Five months later in July 1828, Philip sold the full acreage to Archibald McColl for a tidy profit of sixty pounds.

Archibald McColl and his wife Mary had emigrated from Scotland with their 15 children. How very crowded their first home would have been! By the 1850s, the McColls had built a fine stone farmhouse facing west onto McLaughlin Road. The 1877 map shows a large orchard on the south side of the farmhouse. Descendants of the McColl family owned this lot until the early 20th century, although during that time the acreage was split into smaller parcels.



In the late 1930s, a large portion of the acreage was converted into an apple orchard, known as the Kidd Orchard. The Kidds provided summer employment for many Inglewood teenagers in the picking, processing and selling of apples. Their market stall was located on the west side of Hurontario Street just north of The Grange Sideroad, a great spot for attracting weekend cottagers and other highway travellers.

In the 1970s, the property was developed into estate lots with the subdivision's single street aptly named McColl, in honour of those early settlers. The new homes were sited within the orchard, and most of the properties still have apple trees in their front and/or back yards. Family memories include weddings taking place among the resident's favourite trees. We visited Doug's property and found at least four varieties of apples, including McIntosh and Empire.

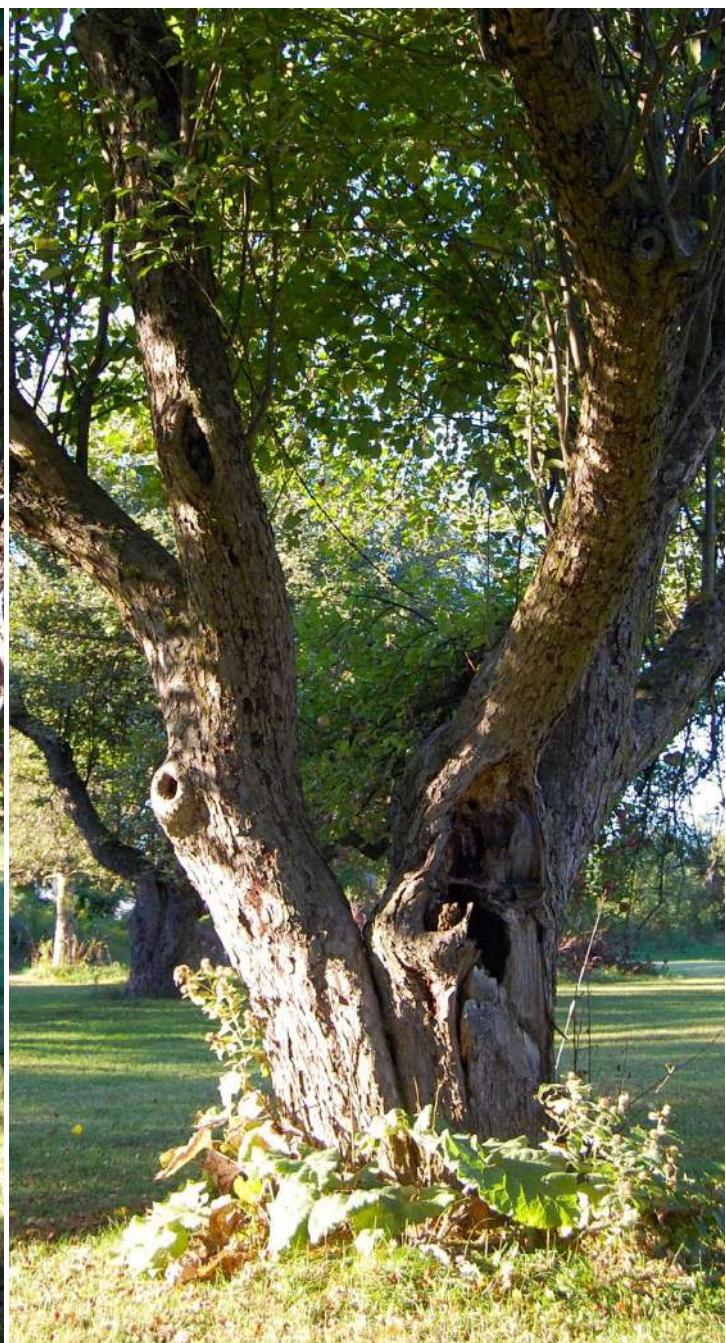
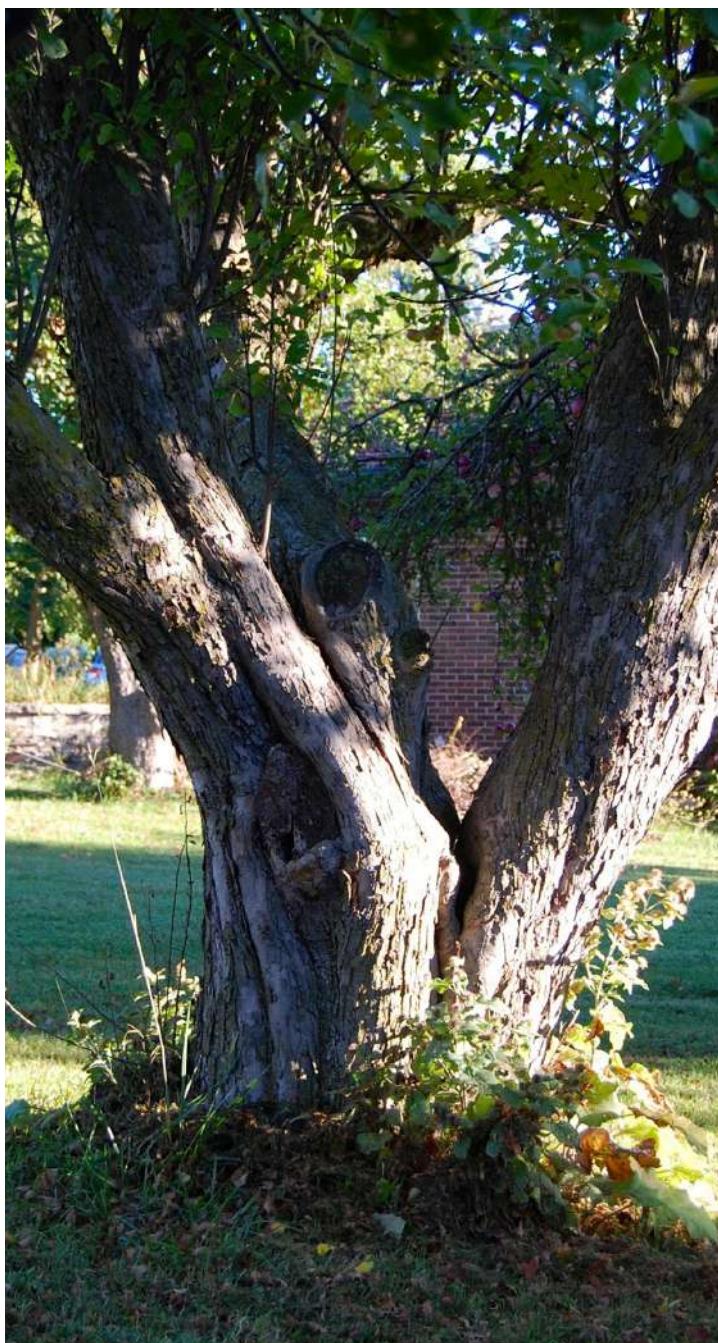
The McIntosh variety was discovered by John McIntosh in the early 1800s. These firm crispy apples boast a rich, tangy flavour, and an alluring aroma. The variety is great for eating, salads, pies, and for making beautiful pink-tinted applesauce.

We measured ten tree trunks in Doug's yard ranging in size from 30 cm to 77 cm DBH (the latter split into multiple trunks above DBH), confirming diversity of ages and species.



Empire apples, a cultivar related to McIntosh, were developed in the 1930s after a deep freeze killed many of the latter trees in upstate New York. They are considered an all purpose apple, good for sauce, pies, fresh eating and freezing.

Kudos to the residents of this subdivision for the hard work it takes to maintain the remnant Kidd orchard, which celebrated its 85th anniversary in 2014.



Species: Apple, Maple and Elm (Ward 4)

Nominated/written by: Mary

Our farm is near #9 Highway, and the oldest part of the house was built in 1897 by J. Bible for R. Rowley. An addition was added on in 1911. Roger Rowley's son, Ivan, continued to farm it until 1966 when it was bought and divided up. Helen, Willy and myself bought the house and barn and 10 acres in 1967. The orchard held about 15 trees at that time but now only 6 are still standing and are in very poor condition.

Mrs. Rowley told me the names of them but I'm afraid I only remember a few. The best cooking apples I've ever used came from the Pewaukee trees, of which one is still standing with a totally hollow trunk - I don't know how it survived the ice storm! Last year it had a bumper crop, of which I froze some and gave away as much as I could. There were very few blossoms on it this spring but I think many trees were affected by the severe cold and



wind last winter. A sucker has grown from the stump of another Pewaukee which produced about a dozen apples last year. There is a Maiden's Blush tree which produces a small sweet apple early in September. It usually produces well every other year. Only half remains. There are 3 other trees but I don't know the names of them and they are not apples that we enjoyed as much as the Pewaukee and Maiden's Blush. There was a Wolf River but I'm afraid it broke off at the ground a few years ago and there is nothing left of it. The trees must be at least 115 years old.

I would also like to tell you about a beautiful Maple tree growing in the corner of the orchard. Ivan Rowley told us that he planted that tree when he was 9 years old. I believe he was born in 1901 so that tree is at least 103 years old and it has magnificent colour every year. Also, a huge Elm tree grows on the town property in front of the orchard. It was there when we came and is now a magnificent tree at least 50 feet tall or more, and seems unaffected by the disease which has killed most elms on the old farm.

Some time before we bought the property, the Township of Albion widened the road allowance but Ivan objected to losing part of his orchard so the allowance takes a jog around the orchard and our front boundary has a peculiar line!

"It is wonderful that you are taking an interest in these old trees".



🍁pek🍁 Pewaukee apples are a cross between Duchess and Northern Spy, and were introduced by George Peffer in Pewaukee, Wisconsin in the early 1840s. Recommended for pies and sauces, they cook quickly into a light yellow smooth tart sauce. The fruit is distinctive as it has a small protuberance found close to the stem. The species is considered long-lived, hardy and healthy. It blooms late and keeps until mid winter. In 1870 George Peffer received an award for his apple from the American Pomological Society.

Maiden Blush is one of the oldest American apple varieties and was reportedly popular in Philadelphia markets in the early 1800s. It has thin skin, pale lemon-yellow in colour with a crimson blush. The variety is an excellent grower, dependable producer and has a long harvest period.

Wolf River is an apparent offspring of an old Russian apple called Alexander. It is reported that in the mid 1850s a lumberman from Quebec moved his family by wagon to Wisconsin, taking with them a bushel of Alexander apples. The seeds were planted on the family's farm along the Wolf River. The farm was sold before the trees started producing and the new owner named the apple 'Wolf River'. The variety is a vigorous grower with huge fruit, which can weigh up to a pound. The fruit is sweet with a slight tart taste, but becomes sweeter if left on the tree until the weather turns cold. The peel is red and green with a light yellow to greenish small circle on top. It is a great candidate for apple butter and for drying.

Two other trees in this remnant orchard had fruit at the time of our site visit. One apple was red with a wee bit of green, and had hard white flesh with red flecks. The other was a late apple with red and green skin and medium flesh.

We measured the elm and two maple trees. The maple trees, which measured 103 cm and 104 cm DBH respectively, are truly magnificent. The beautiful elm has two trunks, which measured 55 cm and 72 cm DBH.

The local road definitely takes 'a jog' around the old orchard. Kudos to Ivan for standing up and protecting these beautiful, majestic trees.

Species: Crab Apple (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Paul

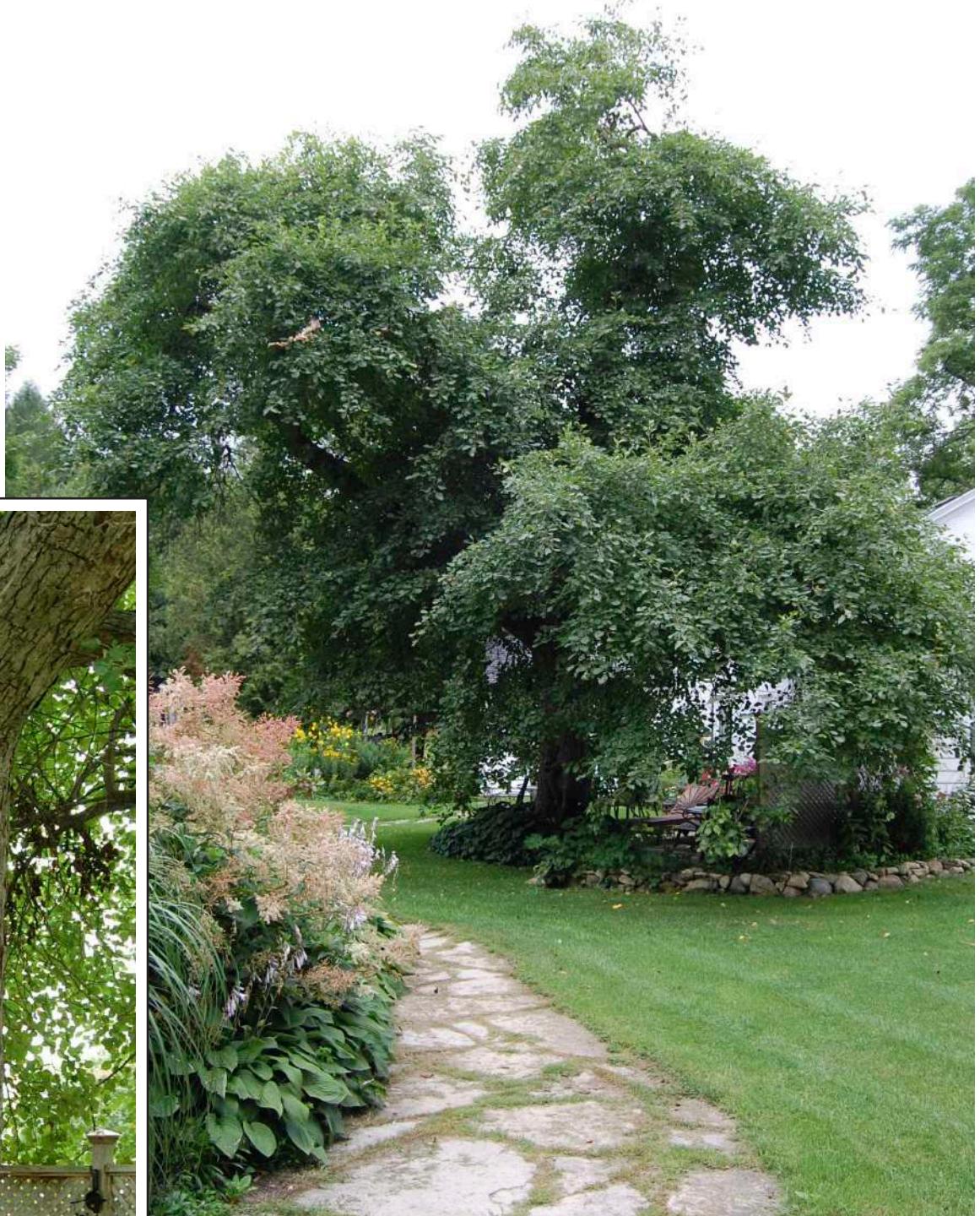
The William Perkins Bull Collection of Peel County family histories tells us that in early 1830 George Middaugh petitioned the Crown to confirm his brother's ownership of Lot 23, Con IV WHS. While two other interested parties certified that no settlement duties had been completed, George claimed that his brother Martin, a United Empire Loyalist, had built both a house and barn on the property, and cleared the requisite 5 acres. Martin had subsequently cut his foot with an axe, forcing him to "go to East Flamborough among old friends for subsistence till he could regain himself". There he died of blood poisoning in 1827, leaving a widow and seven children under the age of nine. Martin left no will and no available funds for his widow to pay the outstanding property taxes on the Caledon Township lot. In his petition, George requested the lot be held for a few months until he could afford to cover his brother's outstanding debt.

Martin Middaugh's 200 acres (inherited by his son John who was later deceased), reverted to Martin's widow Elizabeth after her notice of claim in 1839 under the Heir and Devisee Act. By 1839, Elizabeth had remarried and was the wife of John Gaynor.

The lot is located within what became the village boundaries of Alton and was included in the Plan of Subdivision mapped in 1857. Prior to that date, between 1847 and 1849, Elizabeth Gaynor sold the 200 acres in 3 parcels, including 50 acres to Nicholas Smith in 1849. It's interesting to note that according to an 1843 entry in wagon maker Nicholas' diary he started building a 1½ story timber frame home that year. The home still exists today. Nicholas lived here with his wife and six children until his death in 1867. His descendants owned this home until 1950 when Paul's father purchased it.

At that time Paul's dad declined an offer to purchase a large portion of the adjoining acreage, which extended up the steep hill west of the home. Known locally as "the Pinnacle", this hill defined and constrained the shape of the village of Alton and continues to serve as a scenic northern boundary. A barn located between the Smith home and the Pinnacle was, at one time, used as a place to drink coffee for those folks who skied down the hill. The ski hill tow rope still existed when Paul's family moved in.

While it is not known which Smith family member planted the crab apple tree near the southwest corner of the home, we suspect it is over a century old. It still produces golden yellow apples with a red tinge. This magnificent tree, which boasts a 65 cm diameter, towers over the 1 ½ storey home. The tree's substantial crown provides a beautiful and large natural gazebo over the home's patio and sitting area. Its branches, which almost reach the ground, provide shelter from both wind and summer sun. If this tree could speak, it no doubt would be able to share many conversations and secrets that have been whispered underneath it.



Species: Cedars, Elm and Mixed Forest (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Gerry

Descending through an allee of sumac towards an enchanted pond at the bottom of a small valley on this Caledon property, one's senses are enhanced by the subtle aroma of a deciduous forest. Claude Monet once said: "For me, a landscape does not exist in its own right, since its appearance changes at every moment; but the surrounding atmosphere brings it to life - the light and the air which vary continually. For me, it is only the surrounding atmosphere which gives subjects their true value".



The Crown Patent for the original 200 acre lot was granted in 1821 to Elizabeth Frederick, the daughter of United Empire Loyalist (UEL) Paul Peterson of Fredericksburgh Township in eastern Ontario. Having fled to Canada after losing their homes, land and all possessions during the American Revolution, UELs and their children were given free land in Upper Canada in return for their support of Britain. It is likely Elizabeth never set foot on her acreage, which was sold by her husband for 100 pounds in 1828 to John Stickney of Sophiasburgh, Prince Edward County, and his three partners,

who were likely land speculators. In 1849, the 200 acres were sold to Alex McFarlane of Toronto for 150 pounds. A month later Alex divided the lot, selling the east half (100 acres) to John McFarlane for 100 pounds. John and his descendants owned the acreage until at least 1916. It was likely the McFarlanes built the first home on the east half of the lot and began clearing the land for agriculture.

According to the notes of the township surveyor, at the time of the survey in 1819 the forest cover on this lot included hemlock, beech, bass and maple, and there was a cedar swamp and a creek on the adjacent lot to the north. Although the cycle of settlement saw most lands cleared for agriculture, many settlers retained wood lots



for firewood, and kept wetland areas ill-suited to agriculture. Today, the valley west of the pond on the property supports a mixed forest, and includes some tree species noted on the original surveyor's notes. Most impressive is a stand of towering cedars, which measure 63 cm to 78 cm DBH. Cedars were a versatile tree for European immigrants, providing a solution for scurvy as well as products important to early settlers such as cabin logs, poles, shingles and fencing. Deer and other wildlife also prefer this tree for winter shelter. A young elm, which has survived the ravages of Dutch Elm Disease, stands guard on the hillside between the property's home and the valley, completing an idyllic scene in Caledon's rural landscape reminiscent of Monet's paintings.



Species: Apple (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Paul

No one knows who planted the many old apple trees, originally a clearing, but now interspersed among more recent trees. Although the remnant orchard is not noted on the 1877 map of the area the family told us that it was well established when they took ownership in 1954.

Dave's forefathers purchased this land in 1867 and over the generations his family influenced its many changes. According to the Provincial Land Surveyor's notes, the deciduous forest cover at the time of the township survey



in 1819 was comprised of maple, red oak, iron, white ash and elm. Clearing the land for agricultural use was backbreaking work for the early settlers, even with the help of oxen and horses. Used for cropping and grazing cattle, the land supported an agricultural economy for several generations. Deforestation in the 19th century and the gradual mechanization of agricultural practices in the 20th century, however, increased soil erosion and decreased both wildlife habitat and water levels, affecting the sustainability of the land.

The family has many fond memories of this acreage. The children rode their ponies and pretended to be cowboys herding cattle. They recall often falling off and having to walk a long way home. The Caledon Hunt Club, dressed in their matching jackets, regularly rode here with their horses and hounds. Dave and his wife once came across a bagpiper in full regalia standing on a promontory, the skirl of his pipes carrying out over the majestic valley below. Hot air balloons, many of which originated in Alton, often sailed lazily overhead.

With a keen interest in natural heritage conservation and sustainable environmental practices, Dave planted trees in the back half of the acreage in the mid 1970s, leaving the front half to reforest naturally. A maturing conifer plantation and a mixed deciduous forest now provide a canopy cover of 35-100 %. Smaller meadows are filled with wildflowers, grasses, shrubs and small trees that have taken root. Left alone, over the next 100 years these areas, too, will transition from savannah into a mature forest.

Among the trees in this remnant orchard we identified at least 14 different varieties of apples. The trees themselves ranged in size and bark characteristics, and their fruit ranged in flavour from sour to tart to mellow. The flesh of most of the apples was very white, and ranged from soft to very hard. The skin colours varied from red to yellow and green, with the majority being green with red stripes/blush or yellow with red stripes/blush. Nowadays, the apples provide welcome food for the wildlife that once again enjoys this forest habitat.

This acreage is a good example of man's continued influence on the cultural landscape in Caledon. While the land will never entirely regain its 'before settlement' appearance, reforestation has certainly helped to reverse the environmental impact of the early clearcutting and proven the resilience of nature. The forest on this beautiful acreage has come 'full circle'.

Species: Apple (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Anne

In 1876, George Wanless passed away at age 41. He left behind his wife Elizabeth and six children aged 2 months to 17 years. Elizabeth inherited his estate, including this 100 acre lot that she sold in 1897. A log cabin and orchard were located in the vicinity of the lot's western boundary.



In the 1930s, the then owners dismantled the original cabin and incorporated the logs into a new home on the southeast side of the lot. They planted pine, black walnut and oak trees at the homestead location. Today, the remnants of fences denoting fields are still visible throughout these 'new' trees, which are maturing into a beautiful forest.

Anne told us that when her family moved here in the early 1980s there was a well established but abandoned apple orchard interspersed among the maturing forest. While most apple trees have since succumbed to nature, the remnants of this orchard is still visible, with the largest tree boasting a diameter of 28 cm DBH.

The garden shed, located close to the current home, is a reconstructed log cabin relocated from Bond Head, Ont. Beside this cabin is an apple tree which has two trunks measuring 24 and 26 cm DBH. Unlike the forest 'apple' trees, that do not produce fruit, this tree produces very hard white fleshed apples with a few red stripes in their green skin. In spring, this tree provides a stunning display of blossoms set against the green backdrop of the forest and, in fall, a rewarding feast for area wildlife.



Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Kathy



whose skin was green and red on the sun side.

This remaining tree has a fascinating trunk formation and shape. A forester tells us: "*The growths (on the base of the trunk) are callous tissue healing over what once were likely stump or basal sprouts that could have formed a companion tree alongside the main stem but were cut off to prevent this from happening. Their removal was likely after they had reached considerable size (perhaps around six inches in diameter) hence the large swellings.*"

The 68 cm diameter trunk is partially hollow and the remaining branch appears to be precariously 'perched' on one edge. Who knew that nature could provide us with such a resilient and unique tree formation?

'Alfalfa Ranges' was the name given to this home and acreage that Kathy purchased in 1963. It was so named for the alfalfa that was grown on the land and shipped overseas to provide food for the horses in the Crimean War in the mid 1850s.

In 1824, John Willis, a farmer and private in the militia was issued a Patent for this 100 acre lot. In 1842 it was sold to Allen Smith and to James Kerr six month later for a profit of 200 pounds. It is likely that John cleared most of the hemlock, beech and maple forest cover, and James built the well cared for three bay brick home in 1860.

Three apple trees were all that remained of the farmstead's remnant orchard when Kathy took possession of the property. Today, only one tree remains. It used to have five branches extending from the trunk. It produced tasteless apples about three inches in diameter

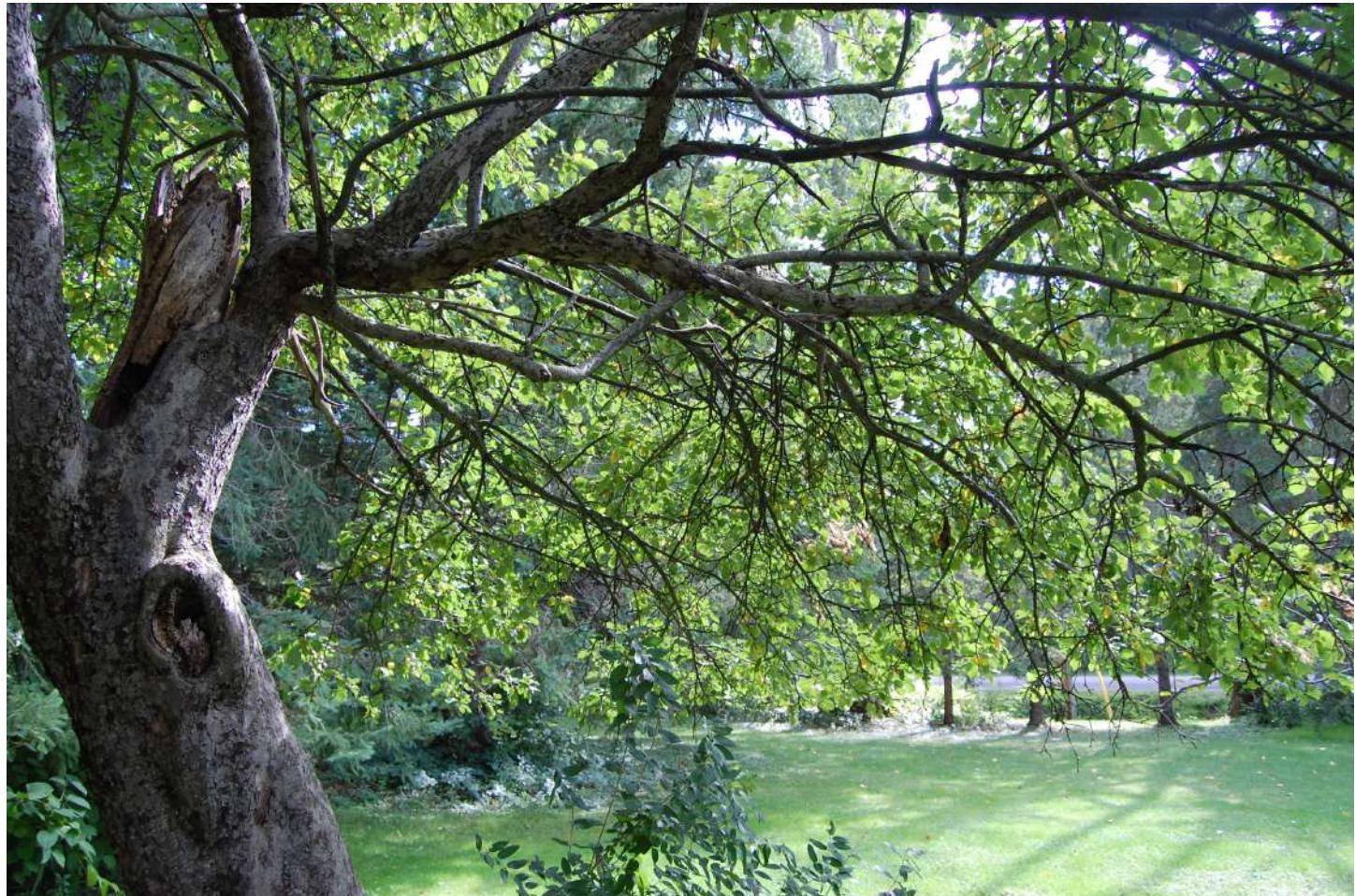


Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Jean

When Jean moved to this farmstead in 1973 remnants of its original orchard noted on the 1877 map still existed in her front yard. The farm's original log home was also still standing, incorporated within later additions. One can still clearly discern the thicker walls of the earlier log structure, a tribute to the home's humble beginnings and those who had lived there.

Thomas Cooper, a farmer and a sergeant in a Rifle Company of the 1st Regiment York Militia, received the Crown Patent for the 100 acre property in 1824. In 1845, he sold the land for 55 pounds to John Allan. Immigrants from Edinburgh, Scotland, John and his wife, Margaret Adams, had one son and three daughters. The land remained in the Allan family until the early 1960s, with the acreage being divided into smaller parcels over the years. The parcel owned by Jean entails the original farmstead, and is called the Luanda Farm.



Today, the only remaining apple tree, which has a diameter of 48 cm, is estimated to be over 100 years old. While its trunk is now hollow, it still blooms in May most years, producing Duchess apples in the fall.

The Duchess or "Duchess of Oldenburg" variety of apples originated in Russia in the 18th century. It was reportedly brought to England in 1815 and France in 1834, and was one of four Russian apple varieties brought to America in 1835 by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Considered an heirloom variety, the Duchess apple is medium to large in size with firm, crisp flesh that is aromatic and juicy. It is excellent for eating as well as sauces and jellies, although the tart taste lingers. An early season variety (August to September), the Duchess apple does not store well.

Species: Apple (Boyce's Creek, Caledon East)

Nominated by: Charlie

Boyce's Creek flows south across Lots 22 and 21 almost in the centre of the concession. It passes under Old Church Road just west of the former OPP station in Caledon East, and joins Centreville Creek south of the Caledon Trailway. A swimming hole at the confluence of these two creeks was enjoyed by the local youth for well over a century and is still fondly recalled by Caledon East's seniors.

Old apple trees mark the sites of two 19th century log cabins that once stood on either side of the creek. The creek is named after the Boyce family, who lived in the log cabin on the east side and farmed part of Lot 21. Prior to the arrival of the Boyces, the watercourse had been known as Greer Creek and later Parson's Creek after earlier landowners.



A walking trail borders the west side of the creek for most of its length. Just off this pathway north of Old Church Road, one of the remnant apple trees associated with the early log cabin sites is probably the most intriguing of those nominated. This tree has three trunks measuring 15, 22 and 28 cm DBH respectively, which appear to have been braided! One wonders if this unique form was the result of an early settler's effort to create something unique, or possibly intended to mark a special place. Regardless, it offers a visual delight to the users of this village trail.

Further north along the creek-side path are two other large clumps of apple trees with trunks measuring between 25 cm and 36 cm DBH. One clump produces tart tasting green, almost yellow apples, while the other produces green apples with red stripes and red flecks in the flesh. Close to the trail's end there are a number of much younger apple trees producing fruit that is quite mild tasting. With the apples providing an autumn feast for local wildlife nowadays, these trees are not only a tribute to the early land owners but indicative of the great diversity of species along the Boyce's Creek trail.

Of note, the community's continued enjoyment of Boyce's Creek, including its apple trees, has been due in no small part to the extensive work undertaken by Ontario Streams through its Caledon Headwaters Rehabilitation Initiative. Since 2001, Ontario Streams has worked in partnership with a dedicated Adopt-a-Stream group of volunteers on the in-stream rehabilitation of Boyce's Creek. In that year Ontario Streams paid tribute to Caledon East resident Horst Tottenbach, who brought attention to Boyce's Creek at a critical time:



Horst spends his weekdays as the brewing site trainer for the Molson Brewery but takes time out of his busy schedule to work on a favourite little creek near his home in Caledon East. Boyce's Creek is a small tributary of the Humber River that sustains a coldwater fishery. In addition to his duties as vice president, Horst has worked many hours, personally installing in-stream structures and working with the local community members to keep them informed and involved in the Boyce's Creek Rehabilitation Project. When the Region of Peel wanted to pump from a nearby well that supplied the base flow for Boyce's Creek, Horst was a powerful local voice that spoke out against permits for the application. His vocal opposition helped to ensure that this beautiful little creek was saved from destruction. As a young child growing up in Germany, Horst couldn't wait until daybreak to head out on the water and go fishing. Lately, he has focused his time on stream rehabilitation and enjoys spending a beautiful day, with no bugs, improving fish habitat. He would like to encourage environmental education and believes that it should be the focus for many in the years to come. Horst has worked passionately to help protect our natural resources and has been an outstanding member of Ontario Streams.

<http://www.ontariostreams.on.ca/PDF/newsletter%202-b.pdf>

Species: Crab Apple (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Michael

After the principal east-west railway routes across southern Ontario had been completed in the 1850s, railway promoters turned their attention to the northern hinterlands and began establishing rail connections with the upper Great Lakes. Three rail lines were constructed through Caledon in the 1870s, providing our local communities with direct access to southern urban markets. The last to arrive was the Credit Valley Railway (CVR). Completed in 1879, its branch lines to Orangeville and Elora were routed up the Credit River valley for the primary purpose of accessing known aggregate resources.



Immediately following the arrival of the CVR, sandstone and limestone quarries were opened along the edge of the Niagara Escarpment, with Forks of the Credit and Inglewood becoming the local focal points of this industry. The red sandstone from these quarries was used for

buildings throughout Ontario, including the provincial legislature at Queens Park and the old Toronto City Hall. The quarries required a large labour force, which spawned the riverside hamlets of Brimstone and Forks of the Credit. At one point there were over 100 pupils registered at the Forks' one-room schoolhouse on Chisholm Street. Quarry-



ing at the Forks was short lived. It peaked in the 1890s and ceased between 1900 and 1910 when extraction became too expensive. With the closure of the quarries, Brimstone and Forks of the Credit virtually disappeared and over time the area's former industrial landscape was reclaimed through natural regeneration. Today, a small number of largely modern residences enjoy the scenic and recreational aspects of the river valley.

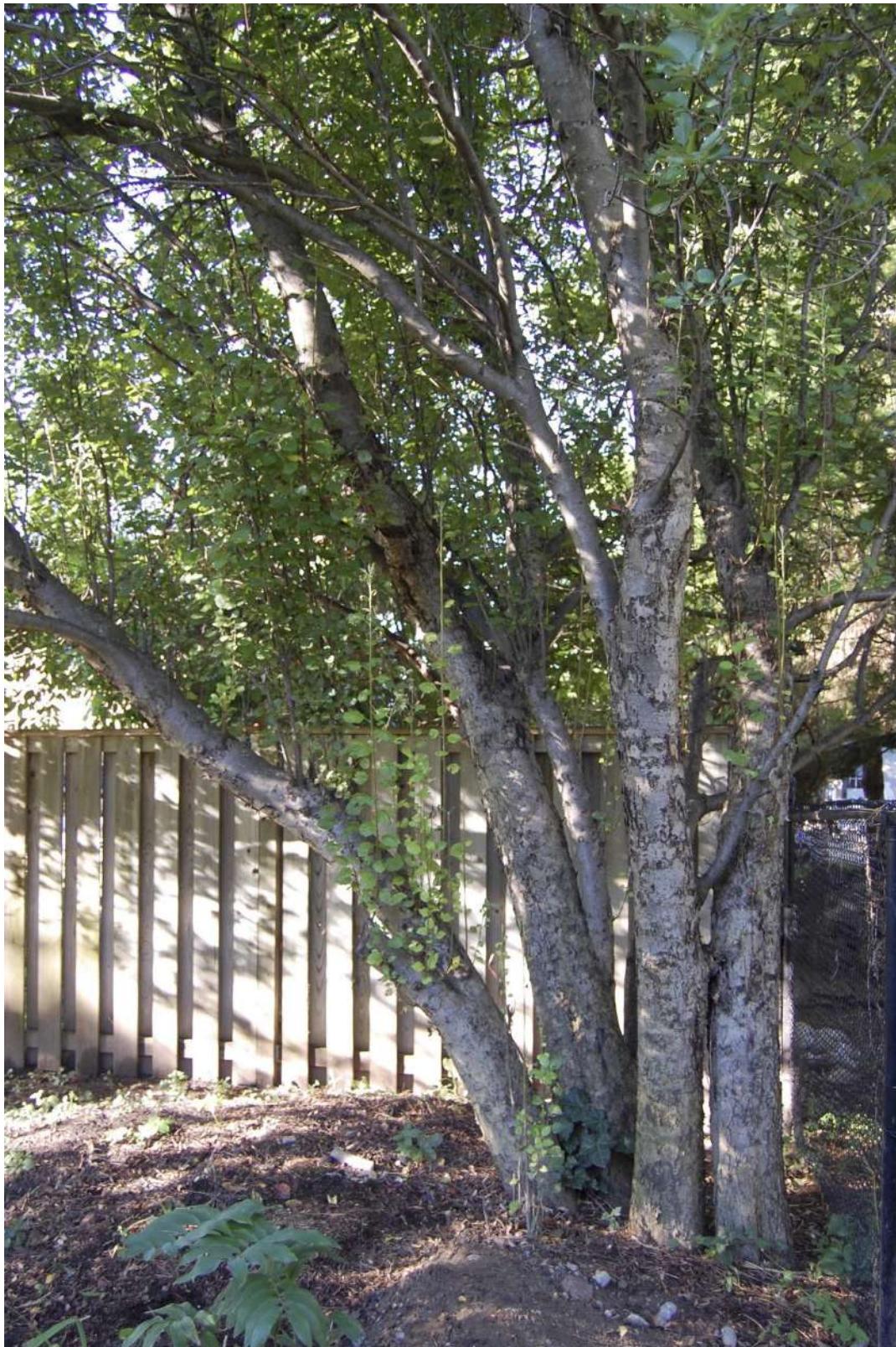
In 1873, Peel County entrepreneur Kenneth Chisholm had purchased 100 acres on the south side of the Credit River for \$2000, likely speculating on the arrival of the railway. Chisholm later established the Big Hill Quarry, and Chisholm Street is named after him. A beautiful replica 1812 Loyalist-style house now stands on part of his land, reflecting the area's historical character. The home is definitely an improvement on the one room log cabin, that once stood proudly on the property. We are told the cabin had been home to three generations of the Skinner family, the first of which had 13 children. Remnants of an old well have been found, believed to be associated with the Skinner house.

A beautiful apple tree stands in the corner of the lot, well over 20 feet tall and with a 25 foot crown radius. It has four stems with diameters ranging from 20 cm to 30 cm DBH. We wonder if it was planted by the Skinners. In recent year the apples have been harvested by a cidery, although in 2014 the tree was barren. However, across the street on the bank of the Credit River we gathered fruit from an identical clump of apple trees. The medium size yellow apples have a faint red blush mark on their skin. The flesh is white, medium hard with a tart taste.

Species: Apple (Ward 3)

Nominated by: Judith

In 1828, the Patent for the full 200 acres of Lot 21, Concession 1 Albion, was issued by the Crown to King's College (administered by the Church of England). Sometime between 1838 and 1844, the College began leasing the lot to Irish settlers Thomas and Margaret Greer. By 1851, relative James Greer, his wife Rebecca and their four sons had taken over the lease, living in a one-storey log cabin on the corner of what is now the Caledon East United Church parking lot. In 1863, a portion of the lot was sold to Rebecca Greer, then widowed. She began to subdivide the property, selling village lots on the east side of Airport Road, and later donating land for the Caledon East Orange Lodge and Methodist Church (now United). Greer Street, which initially provided access to the Lodge, is named after her family.



In the mid 1870s, most of the west half of Lot 21 was sold to Samuel Allison, the first doctor in Caledon East. These lands were eventually developed for residential use.

When Judith moved into her home in 1984 there was a large Cox's Orange Pippin apple tree in her side yard, which still regularly produces fruit. This apple variety is named after Richard Cox, a retired brewer and horticulturist who discovered it in the 1830s in Buckinghamshire, England, likely deriving it from the Ribston Pippin variety. The Cox Orange Pippin was grown commercially from the 1860s onward, thriving in the cooler weather characteristic of Great Britain.

The Orange Pippin is a medium size apple with orange-red colouring that deepens to a bright red as it ripens, and mottled with carmine over a deep yellow background. It is well known for its crisp and juicy aromatic flesh. Considered an excellent dessert apple, it is also often blended with other varieties in cider production. An interesting characteristic of this variety is that the seed makes a rattling sound when the ripe apple is shaken. The Cox Orange Pippin is now considered to be a 'semi-dwarf' heirloom variety because its trees grow no more than 20 feet tall, thus making it a good variety to grow on a trellis or espalier.

Judith's Orange Pippin tree has four trunks, which measure 19 cm to 28 cm DBH.



Archival records tell us that upon her death Rebecca Greer was initially buried in the orchard behind the family's log farmhouse in Caledon East, later being moved to the St. James Anglican cemetery. We wonder if Judith's remnant apple tree, which is located directly north of the original Greer farmstead, was once part of Rebecca's orchard.

Species: Bur Oaks (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Brenda

Although abandoned many years ago, the original farmhouse on Oaklawn Farm still stands. Its hand split accordion lath, mix of sawn and hand-hewn timbers and multi-paned windows are visible evidence of its mid 1840s - 1850s origins. The structure was home for over a century to the family who owned this land for upward of 160 years, despite its lack of running water and electricity. Unfortunately, as it happens with many unused buildings it is falling down and soon only memories and photos will provide proof of its existence.



In 1954, Brenda's father, Byng, built a new brick house closer to the road, using some of the hand-hewn beams from the farm's original barn. The family moved in shortly before Hurricane Hazel's arrival, unfortunately losing many of their possessions that terrible night when the basement filled with water.

Farming practices evolved over four generations of family ownership. Brenda recalls that her father owned the first self-propelled combine in the area, which he purchased from Massey Harris in 1959, driving it home from Toronto up Highway 27. Massey Harris used photos of Byng sitting on his combine in its advertising for a number of years.

What is truly unique about this property is its large number of mature oak trees. It is the first acreage we've documented on which so many mature oaks are to be found in the fence lines, along the road frontage, and randomly scattered across the yard.

The oak trees around the newer house measure 45 cm to 65 cm DBH. Brenda can recall the oak that stands by the well as a sapling when it was planted there by her parents 60 years ago.



These oaks are all youngsters compared to the magnificent 'grand old lady' located in the back yard beside the original dwelling.

With no competing vegetation, its crown is rounded and beautifully shaped. It has a 115 cm diameter and the family believes it is close to 200 years old. The last of four similarly aged oaks that once stood in the vicinity of the farmhouse and its laneway, this magnificent oak has certainly witnessed the many activities of this farm family and the love they had for their land for so many years.

Species: Cucumber (Ward 5)

Nominated by: Isabelle

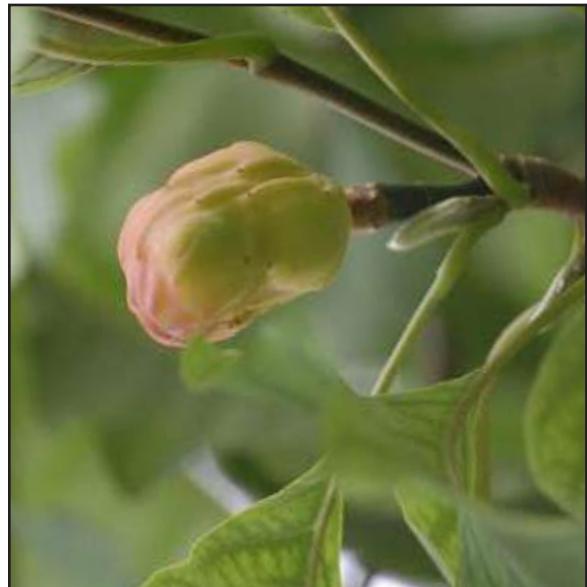
A *Magnolia Acuminata*, commonly known as a cucumber tree, stands unassumingly in the side yard of an 1850s farmhouse. A tree-covered hill rising behind the property, protects the tree from harsh winter winds. While it is conceivable that this cucumber tree grew naturally, we believe it was planted by former property owners who were well known in local horticultural circles for the interesting flora they included in their extensive gardens. David and Amy, the current property owners, are proud of their unique tree and take loving care of it.

The couple who planted and nurtured this cucumber tree would likely never have imagined that in 1984 it would be classified as an endangered species by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). There are reportedly only about 200 cucumber trees remaining in Canada, now protected under both the federal *Species at Risk Act 2002* and the *Ontario Endangered Species Act 2007*.

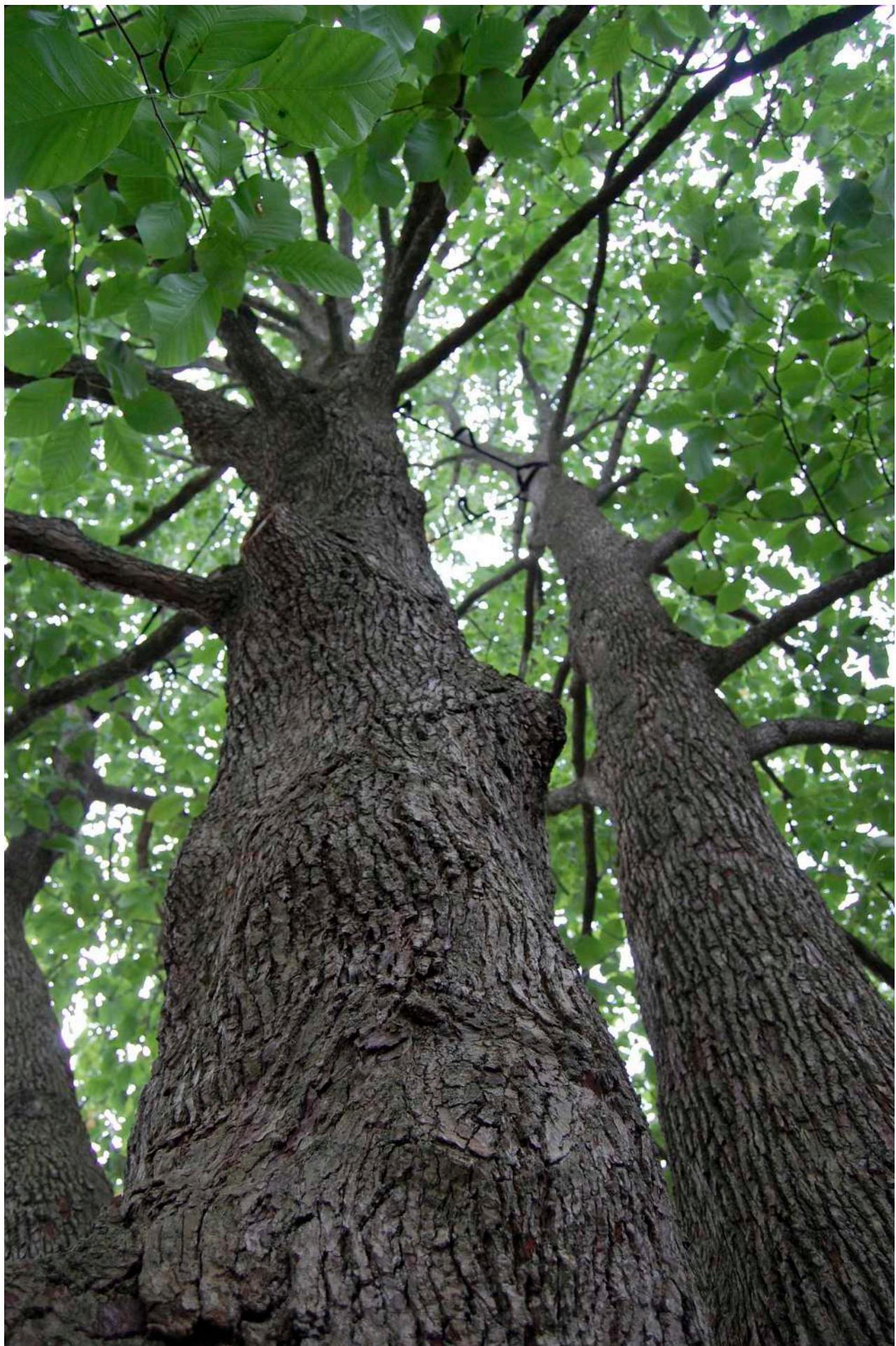
And so it is that Caledon is home to one of the rarest native trees in Canada! Environmental biology professor Peter Kevan at the University of Guelph refers to the cucumber tree as the “Queen of the Canadian Carolinian Trees”.

Magnolia Acuminata is one of the largest and the cold-hardiest of all magnolias. Unlike other magnolias that are covered with showy light flowers in late spring, the cucumber tree’s flowers are greenish yellow and rather inconspicuous. Some believe that the flowers are pollinated more by beetles than bees. When pollinators enter the flowers, tiny wax rollers on the surfaces of the petals cause the insect to fall back and prevent them from leaving. When ready, the petals bend back and release the pollen covered insects. Once pollination is complete the tree sets green fruit, which eventually change to red. The fruit resemble ‘gherkins’ (small cucumbers) and thus the tree is aptly named. The fruit’s seeds are thought to be dispersed by birds and rodents.

Cucumber trees require a large open space for optimal display of their beautiful cone-shaped crowns and accommodation of their extensive root system. In a forest setting they tend to grow singly rather than in groves, which limits the opportunity for cross-pollination and regeneration. Research suggests the trees mature around 80-100 years, and have a lifespan of about 150 years.



This cucumber tree has two trunks that measure 53 cm and 68 cm respectively at DBH. Approximately two metres above grade the larger trunk splits in two; the three trunks extend upward an estimated seventy feet in height. We suspect the folks who planted this remarkable tree would feel as proud of it as David and Amy are.



Species: Spruce (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Ruth

School Section No. 7 in Albion Township, known locally as Moffat's School, was a typical rural one-room schoolhouse. Built in 1900 on the corner of a farm lot at a rural crossroad, the red brick structure had large windows on both sides that provided plenty of natural light for the students to work by. The schoolhouse closed in 1963 following the introduction of centralized schooling, and was converted into a private residence.

Ontario's one-room schoolhouses existed long before the 'instant knowledge' of today's internet era.. Those who attended and/or taught in them will always have memories of 'do you remember when' or 'did you know that'!

For instance, did you know that during the era of the rural one room schoolhouse:

- some students walked over 3 miles to school in each direction
- whiskey was placed in ink bottles to prevent the ink from freezing
- the school's one teacher taught all grades
- enrolment fluctuated with the seasons as some students had to work on the family farm
- male teachers had higher salaries than female teachers
- teachers were paid extra to whitewash school walls
- the only heat source was a wood stove
- in winter parents often hitched up horses with a wooden plow and cleared high drifts of snow to allow their children to walk to school
- some students carried rifles to hunt and shoot game at lunchtime or on their way home

One of the stories related in *Settling in the Hills*, a local history written by the Caledon East and District Historical Society, is that of Master W. L. Judge who took over as the teacher at Moffat's School at age 17 for an annual salary of \$275. Judge had started his 40 year teaching career in Palgrave, walking 14 miles to his home in Caledon on weekends. He must have loved the relative proximity of his new job at S.S. No 7!

A circa 1939 photo of Moffat's School shows it surrounded by a very bare landscape. In 1940, a teacher with sound environmental principles and great foresight decided to improve the school setting. Together with the students, he planted spruce seedlings along the perimeter of the one acre school property.

Spruce trees are from the *Picea* family and form the backbone of many Canadian forests. They are large trees and can tower up to 60 metres at maturity. While their conical shape is more evident when they grow in full sun, this versatile tree grows in most soils and conditions, making it a great choice for landscaping.

Today, the dark green of these mature spruce tree rows provide a striking contrast with the red brick of the schoolhouse. Their intertwined branches form a solid wind and snow break, provide plenty of shade in the summer, and are a haven for wildlife. In sheltering the school yard, no doubt these trees hold wonderful memories for those who were educated here many years ago.



Species: Apple (Spirit Tree Cidery) Nominated by: Heritage Caledon

The thirst quenching drink of both sweet and hard apple cider has been in existence for over a 1000 years. It is believed that wandering tribes introduced apple trees and this drink to early Britons before the Norman conquest of 1066 AD. The Normans made a positive impact on cider making in Great Britain, introducing organized cultivation and the methods used in the well-established orchards of mainland Europe. By the 14th century, cider had become the common drink of the people. In the 18th century, most farms in Great Britain had cider apple trees and farm labourers often received cider as a portion of their wage.

The Pilgrims brought apple seeds to North America in the early 1600s. The resultant orchards provided apples for cooking, eating and cider. Cider eventually lost its popularity being superseded by beer in the early 20th century. This century also brought the Prohibition Act of 1919 in the United States, which resulted in cider trees being cut down and knowledge of the cider-making craft eventually being largely forgotten. The tradition of cider making remained strong in Quebec, however, possibly contributing to the comeback of this age-old art form in recent years.

In Ontario, there are a growing number of small craft cideries using traditional methods to make a quality product. The economic impact of these cideries is beginning to be felt; the Ontario Craft Cider Association estimates that by 2018, 10% of all Ontario apples will be used in this industry.

Tom Wilson is the fourth generation of an apple farming family from the east side of the former Chinguacousy Township. When Tom and his wife, Nicole Judge, took over the farm, they decided to develop a cidery operation and began looking for a new location. They found the perfect acreage further to the west, where the soil and a micro climate created by the south slope of the Niagara Escarpment is conducive to growing cider apples. The Caldwell family had initially settled and farmed this land, although no orchard is shown on it on the 1877 map. Perhaps the hundreds of wild apple trees Tom and Nicole discovered on the property were remnants of the late 19th century orchard Alex Mountain had planted on the adjacent acreage to the east.

In the spring of 2005, Tom and Nicole planted their new ‘Spirit Tree’ orchard on this land. Surrounded by crab apple trees, which bloom early and attract pollinators, their orchard boasts 37 varieties of apples. The heritage apple varieties include Golden Russet, Kingston Black, Brown Snout, Dabinett, Tolman Sweet, Spy, St. Lawrence, Yarlington Mill, Muscadet Dieppe, Chisel Jersey, Spy, and Egremont Russell. Golden Russet and Egremont are the dominant varieties used to produce single varietal estate cider; the Spy variety also makes an excellent cider, as does the Tolman Sweet because of its high sugar content.

Spirit Tree Cidery is based on strong environmental conservation practices. It has incorporated both the traditional cider making method of fermentation and cellar storage and the modern UV method of pasteurization.

The old English tradition of wassailing has become an annual event celebrated at Spirit Tree on Family Day in February. The custom of wassailing is based on the belief that the spirit of the apple trees should be celebrated with singing and dancing. A cake soaked in last year’s cider is traditionally placed in the fork of a tree as a gift to show gratitude for the previous year’s harvest. There are many versions of the incantation. Spirit Tree uses this one:

“Apple tree, apple tree, we all come to wassail thee, Bear this year and next year to bloom and to blow, Hat fulls, cap fulls, three cornered sack fulls, Hip, Hip, Hip hurrah, Holler boys, holler hurrah.”



Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated/written by: Nadia

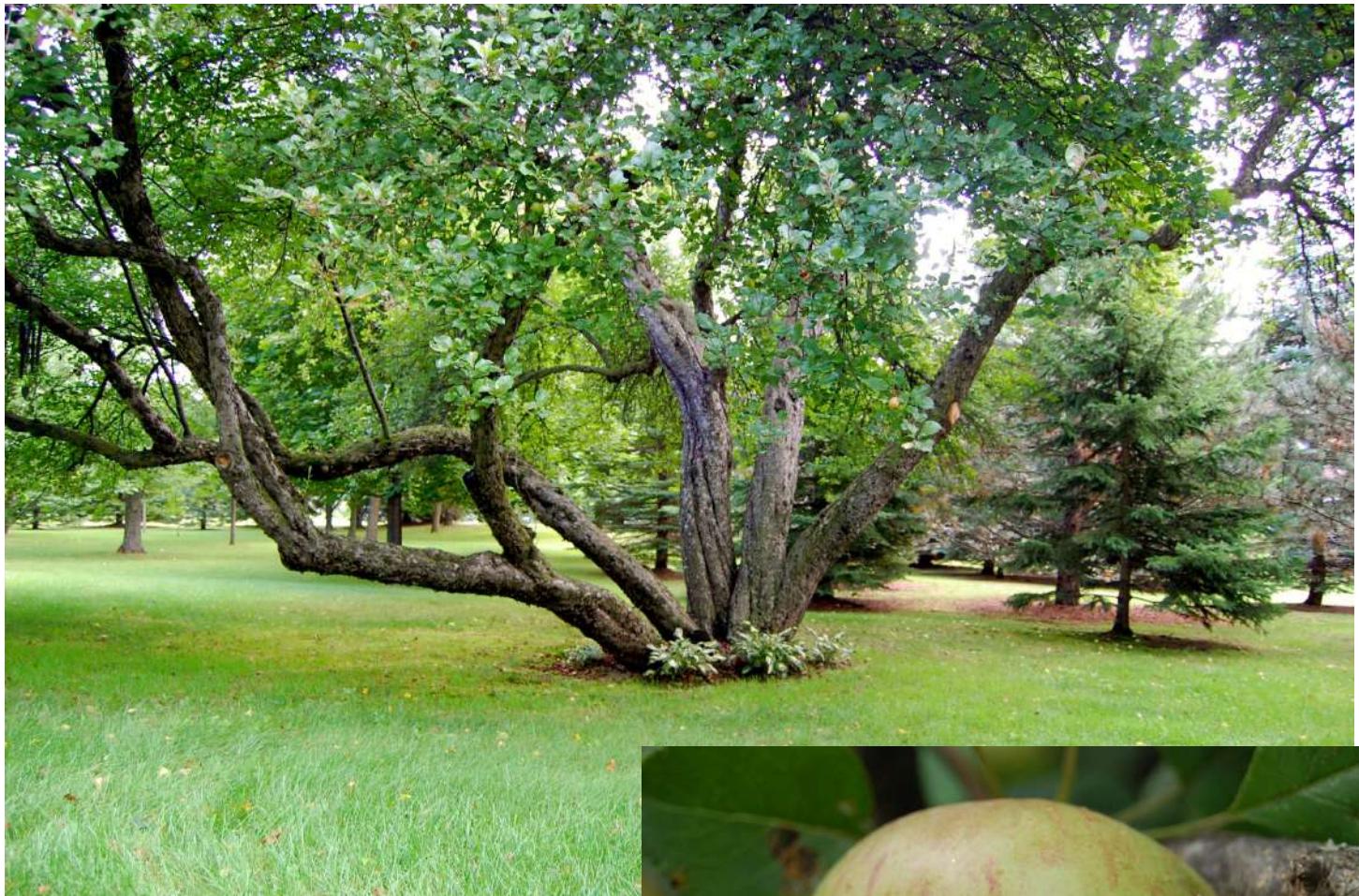
I live in Cedar Mills and I believe my subdivision used to be an apple orchard. The apple tree is located in my backyard. My husband and I have been in our home for 20 years and the apple tree was here before the home was built. It's a very beautiful, tall and full of life tree. In the spring it cascades with blossoms. In the summer it provides a cool and enjoyable breeze. In the fall the deers enjoy the abundance of apples it produces. In the winter the snow forms a picturesque canopy. I feel truly blessed to have such a tree. I hope that future generations will enjoy all its beauty as much as I do.



🍁 Nada tells us there was once a treehouse in the branches, a swing and a hammock hung on the limbs, and a wading pool and sandbox were located underneath it. A series of candles placed on a horizontal limb gently

illuminates the space when the family spends quiet summer evenings relaxing here. In December 2013 an ice storm covered the tree's branches and as a result, on the sunny days that followed, it sparkled like a large cluster of diamonds.

This home is located in a subdivision built in 1992 and the family is grateful to the developer for having the foresight to locate the home without clearcutting the lot. A 1954 aerial map of the area does not show an orchard in



the location of this tree, however it is likely this tree was a small sapling at that time. A limb removed from one of the trunks about seven feet (from the ground) had 40 rings. The tree has matured beautifully over the years and contributes to both the landscape and history linked to Nadia and her family.

This magnificent apple tree has a large high cascading canopy, approximately 40 feet in diameter and is the focal point of the family's backyard. The tree blossoms profusely each spring especially after a good trim the previous year. Five trunks measure between 33 - 45 cm DBH.

Species: Black Walnut (Ward 5)

Nominated by: Valerie and Mary

The Humber River is a prehistoric well used waterway steeped in history. The first people that walked along its banks did not record their past as the later arriving Europeans would. However, a “knapped” aboriginal projectile point which would have been used for fishing with a spear, dating back 9000 years, found in the Bolton Mill Park area confirms their existence.

In 1819, Albion surveyor, James Chewitt, recognized the potential for a mill along the Humber in what became Bolton, reserved the water rights and requested the lot as part of his patronage land grant when the survey was completed. He sold the site to George Bolton in 1821.

There have been many changes along this portion of the river, which flows languidly in the summer, but whose torrents were responsible for devastating floods; notable ones took place in 1842, 1912 and 1954. Close to the curve on Mill Street, George Bolton, with help from his older brother James Charles Bolton, built Bolton’s original mill and dam between 1822 and 1823. George also built a frame house for himself. The mill was operational by 1824. After the 1842 flood, George sold the mill to his assistant and nephew James Cupper Bolton. James rebuilt the wooden dam in its original location then moved the grist mill downstream, a monumental task in that age which required hand digging through a large hill to create a race-way to carry water to power his mill. James’ mill started grinding in late 1846 and was later run by a succession of owners including Arthur McFall, who became the first to harness the river’s flow to generate electricity for lighting and operating the mill and lighting his home.

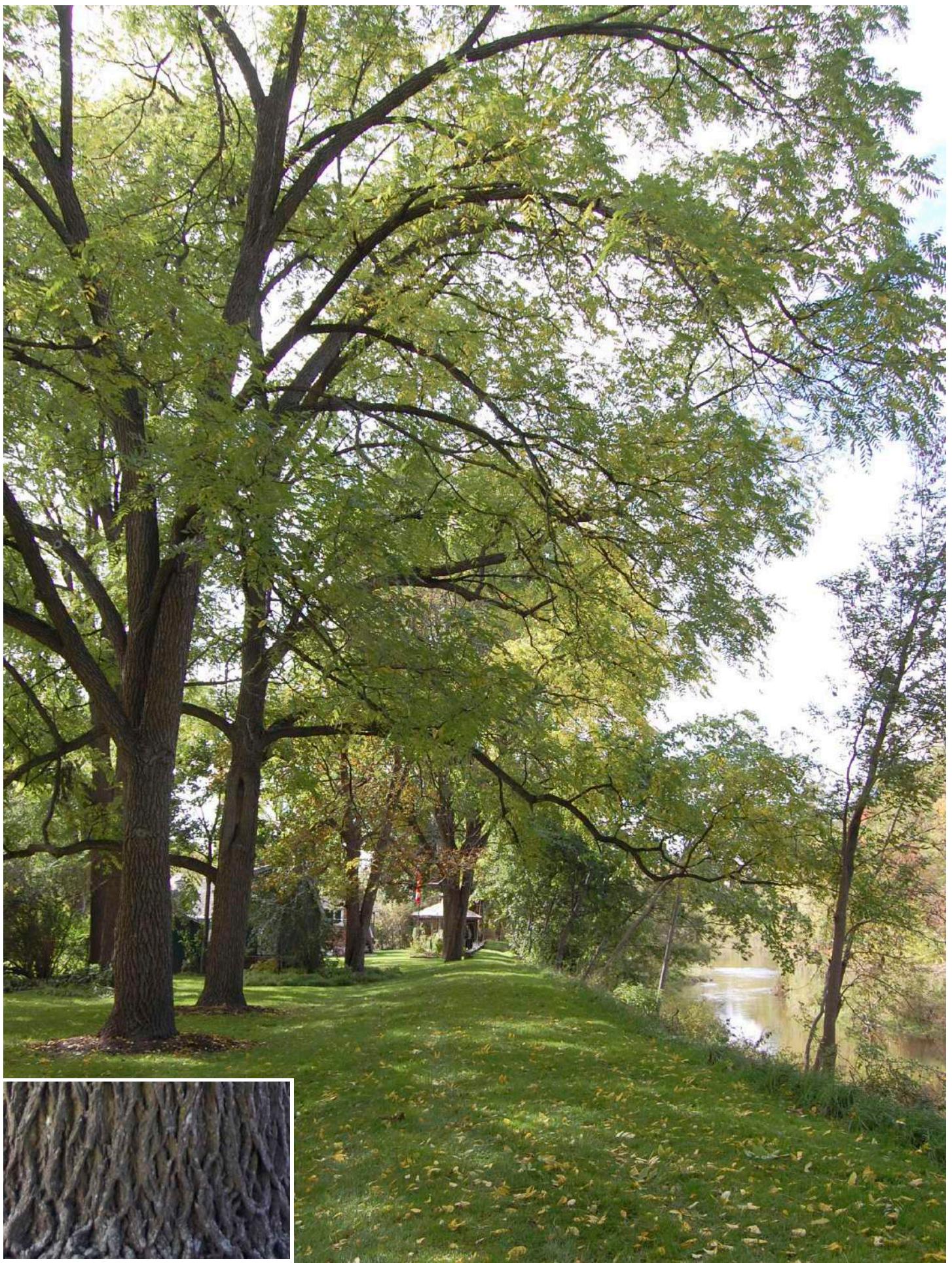
Family names such as Bolton, Gardhouse, Goodfellow and McFall are synonymous with milling and the area’s rich 19th century history. Some of their houses still proudly stand and are lovingly cared for.

Generations of millers lived in the house John Gardhouse built in 1876 using local bricks from Norton’s brick-works. A spring on the north hill was piped under the river and, by gravity, supplied the home with running water. Since 1881, McFall descendants have also owned and now reside in a frame cottage built circa 1843 by James Cupper Bolton to house mill workers. Called ‘Mill Cottage’, the home was one of the first in Caledon to be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The 1912 flood which washed out the wooden dam plus the impact of Hurricane Hazel in 1954 initiated further modifications in the use and flow of the river. The concrete McFall Dam, was built in 1912 and still exists today. This dam was notched in 2000 to permit fish passage and stabilized in 2014. Humber Lea Road was built over the original mill site, which ceased operation in the 1950s, but was used for other purposes until 1968. The mill race, a dugout channel on the north side, was filled in as a new subdivision evolved and Bolton Rotary were instrumental in the creation of the Bolton Mill park in the 1970s. In 1983, the conservation authority built an earthen berm along the south bank as part of the deviation channelling to mitigate future flooding.

The river was not the only natural attribute of the area that underwent changes. The north hill as well as the floodplain were gradually denuded by the late 19th century as the settlers used wood for warmth, building homes and profit. Hemlocks provided the bark for tanning hides in a tannery located on the north side of the river. More trees were cleared post 1968, as roads and subdivisions changed the landscape. Community members ‘replanted’ the hill and today’s forest cover provides a peaceful backdrop to the bustle of downtown Bolton.

Towering black walnut trees, planted in the late 1940’s by James Goodfellow, provide a beautiful canopy on the south side of the river berm, complimenting the green space. These trees were fortunately planted far enough back from the water, that the aforementioned changes by the conservation authorities did not impact their life.



Species: Apple (Ward 3)

Nominated by: John and Carol

John and Carol's two apple trees located on their front lawn have no doubt 'witnessed' a lot of Mono Road's history. The larger tree has a diameter of 28 cm DBH and a canopy diameter of over 7 metres.

Did you know?

- In the early 1850s, Mono Road (renamed Airport Road) was the route of the Mono Mills - Malton Stage, the primary source of transportation before the railroad was built
- The remains of a log corduroy road, built across a swamp and buried ten feet below the surface was unearthed north of the hamlet when Airport Rd was paved in 1962.
- Mono Road is the only hamlet in Caledon located in the original three townships of Albion, Caledon and Chinquacousy. In the early 1870s, the coming of the first railroad brought rapid growth, and at one time the hamlet had a larger population than Caledon East.

From the book, *Settling the Hills*:

- *After train service ended (1933), the station property was bought by Murving Innis, who built an ice-storage facility. In the winter he employed men to cut ice at Innis Lake and haul it to storage in Mono Road for sale to local people and cottagers. The ice was stored in sawdust until it was sold. Murving also had a mill for grain. The old station was also used as a bakery operated by Art Fry, who peddled bread throughout the countryside. He closed down by the end of the 1930s.*
- *Along Airport Road at Mono Road, hotels had to have at least three guest bedrooms and stabling for eight horses.*
- *Caledon Township Council sternly forbade anyone to remain in hotels drinking for more than an hour, save on business. (A man could get as drunk as he pleased on business but not for fun)*

From historian Edith Hutchison:

- *"Mono Road is centralized now," Mr. Judge said. Sixty years ago Mono Road had 3 stores, 2 hotels, a cheese factory, a saddler shop, a tinsmith and a factory where day and night shifts made buggies and wagons. Our worst blow came when we lost the railway five years ago. (Memories of Master Judge as told to Edith in 1937)*
- *Congregations filled the Churches on Sunday. People spent most of the evenings at Methodist meetings. Temperance visitors were frequent, but people kept on drinking swamp whisky anyway. It was the old time industry.*

And an interesting apple tree story told to Edith Hutchison by Doris Porter about the Judge family:

Apparently Master Judges mother had no use for men especially those wanting to visit her daughters Dora and Susanna. When the railroad was put through Mono Road running from Toronto to Owen Sound men who worked laying the line were promised 100 acres of land, if they stayed until the line was laid to Owen Sound. Miss Dora Judge met and fell in love with one of these workers. She had to tiptoe down stairs after dark to meet him in the orchard. When the line was finished to Owen Sound and the gentleman received his hundred acres he wrote for Dora to come. She eloped with the help of her brother Charlie but was never welcomed at home again.

One wonders if John and Carol's trees were once part of the orchard where Dora Judge secretly rendezvoused with her future husband? Only the apple trees know for sure :)



Species: Red Pine (Ward 2)

Nominated by: Shelley

Towering red pines stand in rows on the valley slope adjacent to a home, circa 1830. The pines are a uniform size, approximately 60 feet in height with diameters of 36 cm (for those measured). Based on their size, they were likely planted in the early 20th century, when plantation planting was introduced in Ontario to combat deforestation. The family believes their forefathers, cognizant of resource management, reforested the valley after the primary growth forest was removed.

The timbers used for the framing, as well as the floors of the 1830s home are red pine, believed to have been harvested from the valley. It is probable that the earlier log cabin was also built utilizing the long straight trunks of these trees.

Red pine, *Pinus Resinosa*, are native to North America. They are known to grow rapidly for the first 60 - 70 years, slowing thereafter and living upwards of 300 years. Their bark, thick at the base is flaky and bright orange-red in the upper crown.

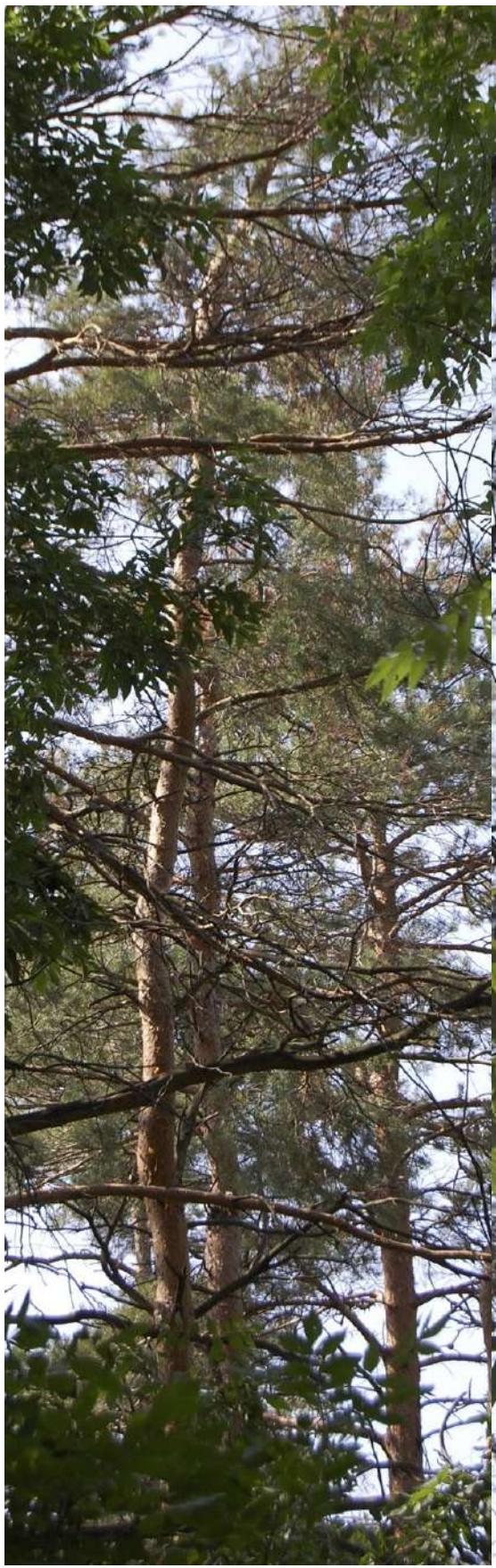
The house, designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1996, has been home to seven generations of the same family, who initially built a mill on the Credit River and founded the Village of Cheltenham. An interesting excerpt from the designation report follows:

The history illustrates that when the family prepared their lot for habitation it was a very different place than the charming village of the late 20th century. The early years were filled with adventures for the young family. In one summer, to acquire enough money for mill and house building Charles went off to Niagara to help build a mill for someone else and Margaret taught school (in the courthouse) in Toronto (York). Young Charles and his eldest sister looked after the family (nine children) in the log house and the Mississauga natives gave them venison and salmon when they camped in the flats that later became the mill pond.

The family were 'reformers' and supporters of William Lyon Mackenzie. Ebenezer was about age 19 when their home was searched and his rifle and a logging chain confiscated. Widespread searching was occurring for Mackenzie at the time as he is alleged to have hidden in this area. The confiscation may well have really provided the opportunity to search. Many years later a candidate for election soliciting Ebenezer for a vote was told that this would not occur until the gun and chain were returned.

There is something uniquely special to live and walk on land and among trees where your family has lived for over 150 years.





Species: Black Walnut (Bolton)

Nominated by: Heather and Isabelle

Victoria, Albert, Hemlock, James, Ann, and Willow were street names in Bolton according to an 1854 map by T. Prosser. The streets still exist today and much time has passed since that map was carefully drawn.

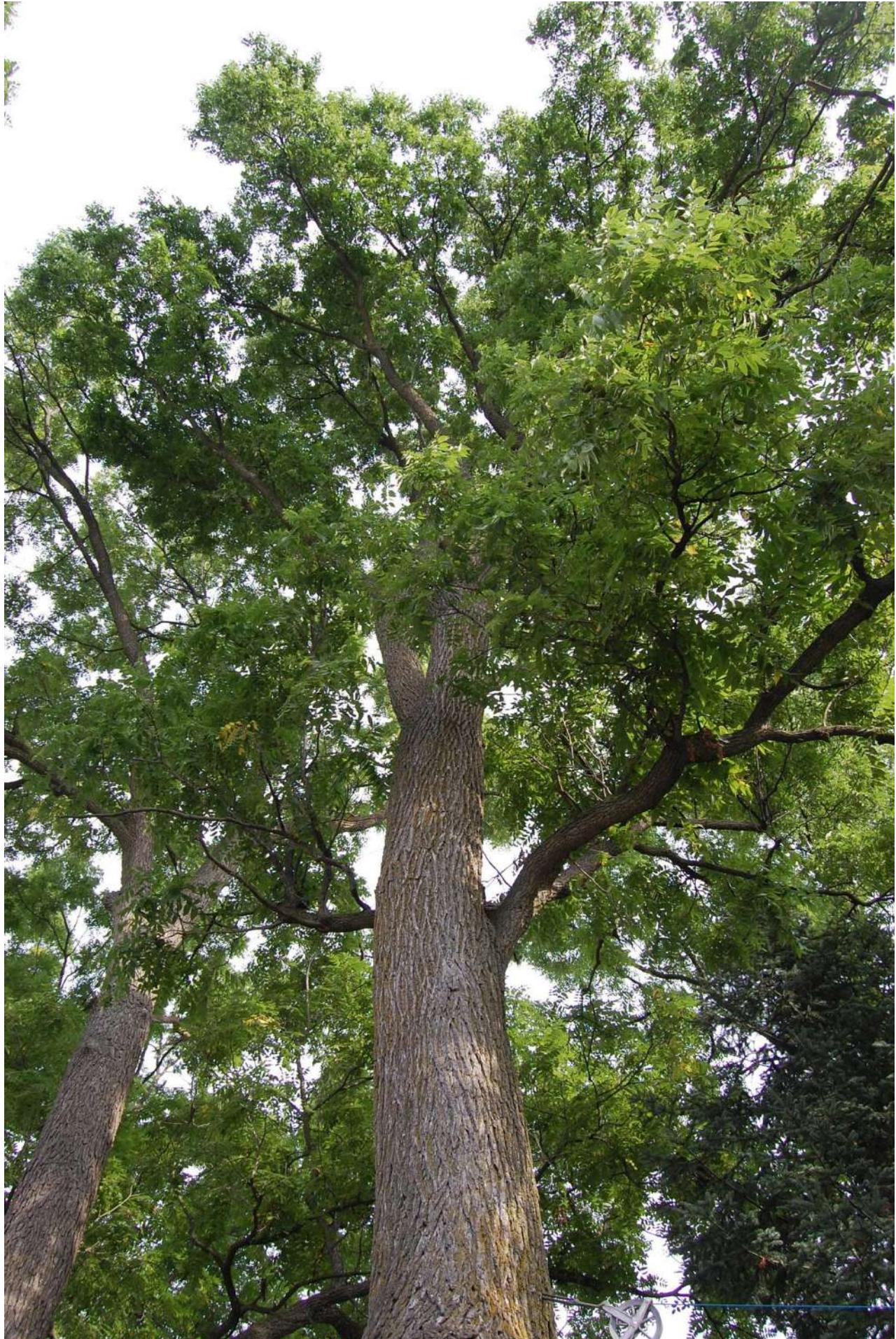
The ‘village nestled in the valley’ expanded up and beyond both north and south hills. Century homes with large properties and extensive gardens has given way to infill housing and new streets.

There was once a pond on the south side of Louisa Street, then known as Green Lane. Green Lane was part of the Norton brickyard, located at the south end of what is now David St., named after David Norton who took over the company in 1850. Wagon loads of bricks were carted up and down Louisa St., a lane at that time, which remains narrow today. On the north west side of the village, Dick’s Dam Ponds were used as swimming holes for residents and later campers from Camp Kneale. They were used until the mid 1970s, long after Camp Kneale was closed and its location converted to a soccer field.

The original tree canopy in the village was cleared by the late 19th century. Perhaps that’s what drew a salesman on horseback to town. It is reported he sold walnut saplings he carried in his saddlebags to homeowners. Today, these mature trees and subsequent ones planted by residents grace the village with their large magnificent canopies that are somewhat of an irregular form.

Juglans Nigra, or black walnut, is a native tree to Ontario and highly prized for its nuts and timber. In Latin, *Juglans* means Jupiter’s fruit and *Nigra* means black. The black walnut exudes a toxin called juglone from all parts of the plant. Juglone inhibits growth of other plants, including its own seedlings, in close proximity to the tree.





Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Lorne and Carol

In 1826, the Crown issued a Patent to Stephen Therrill for this 100 acre lot. Historical documents note that in 1830, James & Robert Johnson made an oath that no settlement duties had been completed on the lot, although both a barn and cabin existed on that date. There is no explanation as to why the Johnson brothers took this step. Perhaps Stephen had neglected to complete a sworn affidavit testifying his settlement duties had been completed and the Johnsons felt the property might be available for resale.

Fast forward to the latter part of the 20th century and there was a change from rural agriculture to an urban subdivision. An appreciation for heritage trees is evident as lot boundaries in this subdivision were designed to include them, rather than clear cutting which is today's practice.

Lorne and Carol's back yard includes three large apple trees, which produce small red fruit. The arborist who maintains the trees believes they are over 150 years old. The variety is not known but we are told they are not crab apples.

One tree, located on a rise of land close to the home, overlooks a large pond, which creates an idyllic setting used for family activities. The trunks of this tree measure 24 to 56 cm DBH. The other two trees, (one whose trunk measures 59 cm DBH), are also located close to the pond.

All three trees have large high spreading canopies. The canopy of the tree located closest to the home measures 14 meters in diameter, providing a lovely shaded spot the family enjoys.





Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Joan

In 1846, Richard and Rachel Lyness immigrated from Ireland with seven children and one grandchild settling on this lot, which remained in their family until Joan's father purchased it in 1942. Richard and Rachel built and lived in a log cabin, which was moved into the barnyard in 1920, when a new home was built by their descendants. The chickens still use the log home as their shelter.

An orchard was planted in the shelter of the new home, in 1920, and eight trees of five varieties remain and continue to produce fruit. A description of each follows:

- 1) The Greening apple, whose trunk measures 59 cm DBH is the orchard's largest tree. The Rhode Island Greening apple originated near Green's End in Newport, Rhode Island and was first grown by Mr. Green, a tavern owner, who grew apple trees from seed. Its fruit is medium to large in size, has green skin and ripens late in the season. It is reputed to have been hugely popular for over 200 years, either eaten fresh or used for cooking.
- 2) The only Snow apple tree has two grafts, which alternate producing apples each year. The largest trunk measures 47 cm DBH. The Snow apple, also referred to as Snow Fameuse, is thought to have originated in the mid 1600s, and is aptly named for its white flesh and winter hardiness. A parent of the aromatic McIntosh, Snow Fameuse are one of the most desirable and oldest dessert apples. A very hardy tree, it is reported the variety was found in most early French settlements in the late 1700s. This late season apple, is one of the few apple types that reproduce true to variety when established from seed. Uses include fresh eating and cider making.
- 3) The Black Gilliflower, also called Sheep's Nose apple because of its shape, is a variety that was developed in Connecticut in the 18th century. Its skin is a "dull red, almost verging on black". The Black Gilliflower, considered a prize apple for fresh eating and cooking, ripens late in the season. The flavour is distinctive and sweet with a hint of spice.
- 4) The Duchess of Oldenburg originated in Russia in the 18th century, and is a medium to large size apple, with a tart taste that lingers. Its flesh is firm, aromatic, crisp and juicy, and uses include eating, baking and cooking. Duchess were reportedly brought to England in 1815 and to France and America in 1835. This early season apple does not store well.
- 5) The McIntosh or "Mac" apple was first cultivated by John McIntosh in the early 1800s in Dundela, Ontario. A 'truly' Canadian apple, it is believed to be a cross between a Fameuse and Detroit Red. The original tree died in the early 1900s. In 2011, the last known 1st generation graft of this tree died at the age of 150. Twigs were removed and grafted to rootstock by horticulturists from Upper Canada Village. The "Mac" is a late season apple.

Joan's dearly loved and well maintained remnant orchard is an outstanding example of the different varieties of apples planted by early settlers, to ensure a continued food source which ripened at different intervals and was used in various forms to provide food throughout long winters. A true tribute to the Lyness family descendants who planted the trees and Joan who maintains them.



Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Tara

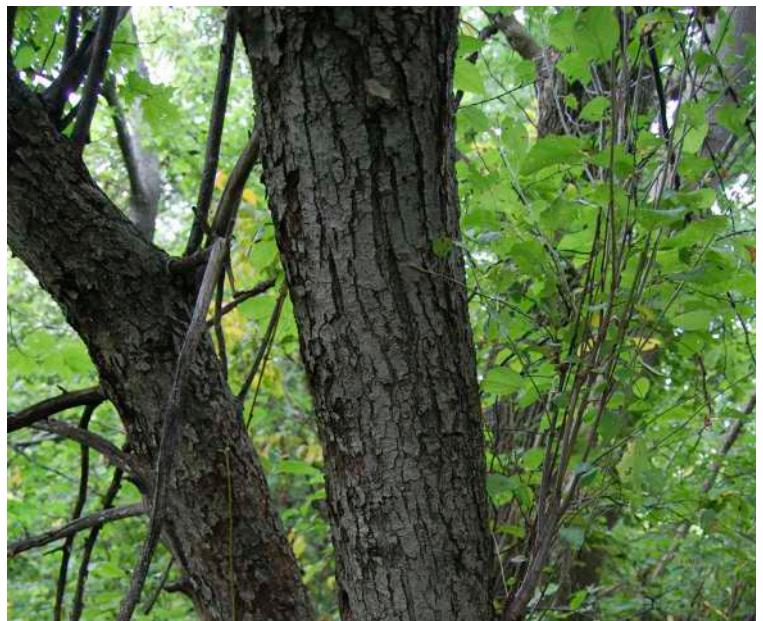
Tara's home is sheltered behind a small rise with mature trees and overlooks a field to the south, through which walking trails have been cut, leading to a pond. There are two large apple trees with a diameter of 66 cm each by the pond. While the colour of the fruit is different on both trees, the very sour taste is the same. One wonders if these two trees are remnants of the original orchard, located east of the pond as noted on the 1877 map of the area.



Immediately north of Tara's home, is a large orchard owned by her neighbour, Stephanie, which was planted 50 years ago and includes at least 15 varieties of apple trees.

The healthy mature trees were well spaced when planted, and range in size from 15 to 32 cm DBH. The branches in their canopies are so large that they touch each other, providing 'a green ceiling' over the entire orchard. As a result, on sunny days, the orchard is bathed in an emerald glow created by sunlight shining on the leaves. It reminds one of a magical enchanted forest where talking animals, unusual creatures and fairies live and work together in harmony.

Stephanie is thrilled that Tara's children are able to spend many happy hours playing in her emerald orchard with its secret hiding places and treasures that only a child can find.



Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Susan

Land abstracts and The William Perkins Bull collection confirm that a yeoman named Dixon was the original owner of this lot. Dixon and his wife raised a family of four sons and four daughters, and their descendants retained ownership of the lot until the 1920s.

The first home built circa 1840s was located close to the road between two apple orchards. A 'modern' brick home, still inhabited today, was built in the mid 1800s further back on the lot at the end of a long farm lane.

A single apple tree located close to the road, stands alone along this farm lane. The tree, whose three trunks measure 9 to 21 cm DBH support a beautiful well formed oval shaped crown. The tree was full of green and red skinned, white flesh apples. Unprotected from harsh winter winds and the environmental hazards of a well travelled road, the tree could very well be quite old, notwithstanding its smaller trunk diameter.

Might this apple tree be the 'last descendant' from one of the two orchards located in its proximity, as noted on the 1877 map of the area?





Species: Hemlock (Humber Valley Heritage Trail, Bolton) Nominated by: Heather

While not as ancient as the 800 year old douglas firs located in the Cathedral forest of Vancouver Island, those who have hiked along the Humber Valley Heritage Trail will have discovered the grove of magnificent tall hemlocks west of Dick's Dam Park in Bolton. As one meanders along the path on a foggy day, these giants come into focus through the swirling mist that only rivers can create, like majestic pillars reaching for the sky.

We visited this grove in the fall. To reach it, one walks along a path that meanders through low vegetation and an exquisite wildflower meadow, located where the old mill pond used to be next to the Humber River. Fallen, decaying leaves absorb the sound of our footsteps, their odour stimulating our senses as only autumn does. Mist envelops us from time to time and only the chattering of squirrels and birds announcing our presence is heard. In spring, trilliums bloom along this narrow walking trail.

The Euro-Canadian settlement history of the area goes back almost two centuries. Too steep for farming, most of the valley slopes had been used for camping, hunting and firewood. Hemlock bark, which was and still is used by tanneries, saved the "Cathedral" grove from being harvested in the early decades of settlement with the thought that when the trees matured, they could simply be cut and floated downstream with high water.

By the 1950s, the land on which the grove is situated formed part of a conservation area managed by locals. The Province purchased it in 1959, after Hurricane Hazel's devastation in 1954, with the intent of managing the river's flow. The first management plan proposed building a large earthen dam with a road on top between Highway 50 and King Street, just east of Duffy's Lane, creating an eight kilometre lake, stretching north from the dam to almost Old Church Road.

In the 1960s, the Province employed large numbers of labourers who cleared the valley above where the dam was to go for the lake. In her Glasgow booklet, Heather Broadbent notes: "*there was a lot of local opposition to the lake both on ecological grounds and because more and more earthen dams, constructed by the American Corps of Engineers in the States, were failing, causing loss of life and great property damage.*" More than a decade later and after further review, other strategies were implemented to control the water course. The area now forms part of the Humber Valley Heritage Trail system and is managed by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority. The Albion-Bolton Historical Society has placed plaques along the trail, which tell the history of the area for those with a keen interest in the subject.

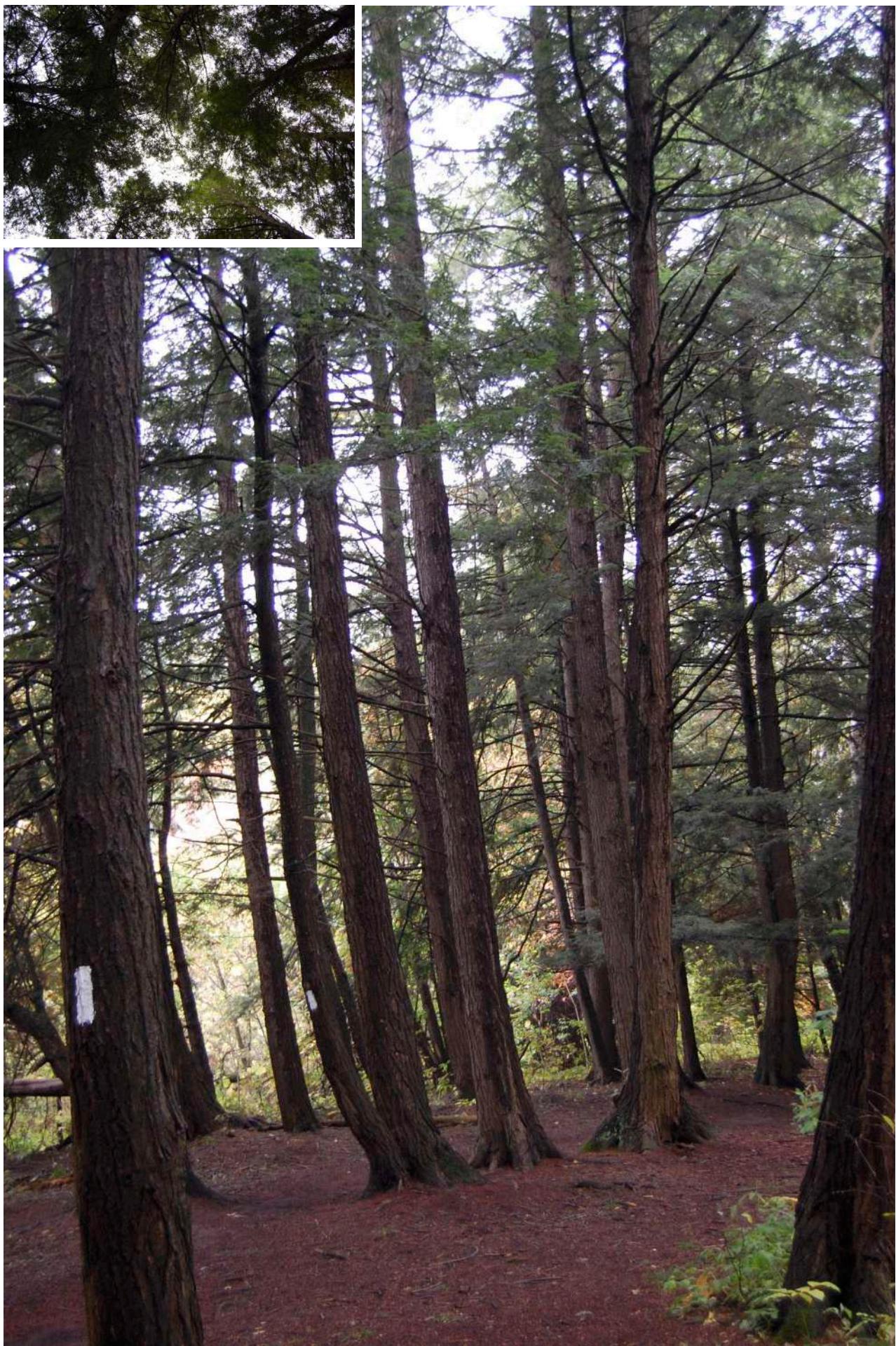
Lyrics to *Ancient Forest* by Clannad fittingly describe this unique section of the trail:

*Came upon on an ancient forest
A guided path that led me there
Walking through the mystic forest
The legend, tale of times gone by*

*Voices whisper in the black night
Reflection deep in wooded lands
A floating mist that circles shadows
A legend, tale of times gone by*

*Giant trees so full remind me
Of many years and ages past
Will they ever share the answer
Of legend, tales, and times gone by?*

*Walking through the mystic forest
I'm walking through the mystic forest
<http://www.celticlyricscorner.net/clannad/ancient.htm>*



Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Deborah

In the midst of our busy chaotic world there are still a few peaceful sanctuaries to be found. On this farm, mature maples line the laneway to the house and their falling leaves create a golden pathway in autumn. Statuesque spruce trees surround the home, providing shelter from both wind and sun. The farmstead located on a small knoll, provides its residents with long and peaceful views.

A brick in the home indicates it was built in 1918, at the time Charles owned the property. This home replaced the first, which was located close to the eastern edge of the acreage in the centre of the concession. That first home was likely built by John Garbutt who was issued a Patent by the Crown, for this lot, in 1823.

While the original home was located at the rear of the property, by 1877, an apple orchard had been established adjacent to the road allowance. Five very old apple trees of various interesting shapes and sizes are remnants of this orchard or its successive plantings.

The five trees measure in diameter from 52 to 72 cm DBH. One produces apples that do not cook well. The two largest trees have hollow trunks, with only sapwood and bark supporting the weight of the large above ground mass. The smallest tree is hollow, with a trunk that is virtually horizontal, however it continues to support a large crown.

One tree provides an abundant annual harvest of Cortland apples used by both Deborah and friends. Cortland apples were introduced in the early 20th century in New York. They are distinctive for their palatable flavour, texture and high yields. The apples, harvested mid season, are used for eating fresh and cooking. Cortland apples are a cross between the McIntosh and Ben Davis apple varieties, and inspires a fanatical loyalty among people largely in Eastern Canada and the US northeast.





Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Valerie

Early surveyor's notes tell us that hemlock, beech and maple trees were once prevalent on the north portion of the acreage and tamarack, cedar, birch trees and a swamp once covered the south portion.

It was John Smith, the former Adjutant to General Issac Brock in the War of 1812, who was granted this lot, who built a small log house and who completed the settlement duties. The lot was considered valuable because Centreville Creek flowed through it.

In 1838, a small section of the original lot (approx 10 acres on the north-east corner) was purchased from the first John Smith by Thomas Milburn who built a grist mill and sawmill on the site under the name Allendale Mills. The mill was powered by Centreville Creek and continued to operate into the early 1900s.

In the mid 1840s, the original log cabin was destroyed by fire, and John's son, also named John Smith, built a second log house which still stands. The property remained in the Smith family until a great-grandson, again named John Smith, sold it in 1946 and it became the summer home of the "three sisters", one of whom was born just at the time of the purchase. They recall their father commuting daily to his job, by driving to Malton and taking the train to the city.

It is unclear which John Smith laid out the orchard on the eastward facing slope of the farm property close to the 1840s log house.

Nine trees of various type, still exist in the remnant orchard, including a Wolf River variety. Wolf River is a seedling from the Alexander apple, originating in Wisconsin beside the Wolf River in the late 1800s. This classic old apple variety is very hardy and matures late in the season. The fruit is large and the flavour is considered good, but sub-acidic or tart. While many prefer to eat the apples fresh, it is reported that it is one of the all-time great apples for pies.

Apple trees are not the only trees in the vicinity of the home. To the northwest is a statuesque pear tree. In the backyard, is the largest apple tree we've located in Caledon. It measures 112 cm DBH, and has a beautifully shaped and stately crown.

The house is surrounded by old lilacs, a popular choice of flora by early settlers. Tall cedars and a "producing" apple tree line the laneway. The cedars replaced large poplars, which were destroyed by Hurricane Hazel in 1954.

The essence of what a settlers' homestead looked like, is clearly demonstrated by this well maintained home and the trees that surround it. It continues to be the "three sisters" weekend and summer refuge.





Species: Bur Oaks (Fountainbridge Community Park – Ward 5)



A magnificent bur oak, whose extensive crown can be seen on Google maps, is aptly called 'the mother tree' by some children who play in the park. A short distance to the south east, next to the park entrance is a windrow of six younger bur oaks. This windrow sits on the former property line dividing the east and west half of Lot 6. The large oak is estimated to be over 200 years old, while the windrow oaks are closer to 80 years old.

There are many stories about 'the mother tree', whose circumference is over 3.5 metres and diameter is 124 cm DBH. One resident estimates its age to be at least 250 years, based on a similar size oak that was removed from the intersection of King Road and Caledon-King Townline, when that road was widened. We are told that somebody once decided to build a treehouse in this oak. The individual was successful in cutting steps in the bark, before horrified neighbours berated him for damaging 'their heritage tree', putting an abrupt end to his plans. Several years ago ax strokes in the early morning hours awoke nearby neighbours, as somebody successfully chopped out a section of the tree's bark before being stopped.

The Town of Caledon recognized the cultural value of the trees and they were designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in the latter part of 2016. Excerpts from the designation report follow:

In 1837, the Crown Patent for the West Half of Lot 6 was granted to Richard Johnston, an Irish farmer. Shortly after, Johnston divided the 100 acres, selling the northern 50 acres to Richard Bugg and the southern 50 acres to William King.

Ownership of the various parcels of Lot 6 changed several times over the following decades. The lot was in close proximity to the growing mill village of Bolton, located in the Humber River valley to the north, which may have accounted for the speculative turnover. As with other lands in the area, Lot 6 was cleared for agricultural purposes.

In 1870, the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway was constructed through Albion Township en route to Owen Sound, with a station at Bolton. As shown on the 1877 map, the railway alignment crossed the west half of Lot 6, Concession 7, isolating a small triangle of land between the tracks and the mid-lot line. It is in this triangle that the solitary Bur Oak is located. While it's unknown if this tree stood at a fence line or in an open field, the arrival of the railway effectively interrupted the farmer's use of the triangle of land around it and contributed to the tree's retention. The railway was later re-routed west of Highway 50, and in 1914 the railway lands were sold back to the land owner at the time, Edward Corless.



These lands remained in agricultural use until the early 1980s, when the west half of Lot 6 was developed for residential use, followed by the east half in the early 1990s.

Bur Oak, or *Quercus macrocarpa*, is one of the many oaks in the genus *Quercus* and is thought to be the most widespread of all oaks native to Canada. Its scientific name is derived from both the Celtic and Greek languages and means 'tree above all others' and 'large and fruit bearing'. Historically, oaks have represented strength and power, with their wood being strong and durable.

Research indicates the bur oak was used medicinally by indigenous people for heart problems and other ailments. The tree's flowers and fruit attract birds, small mammals and deer. While the raw acorns are toxic, once tannins are leached or boiled out the meat has a variety of uses.

Species: Alton Grange Forest, Caledon Nominated by: Heritage Caledon

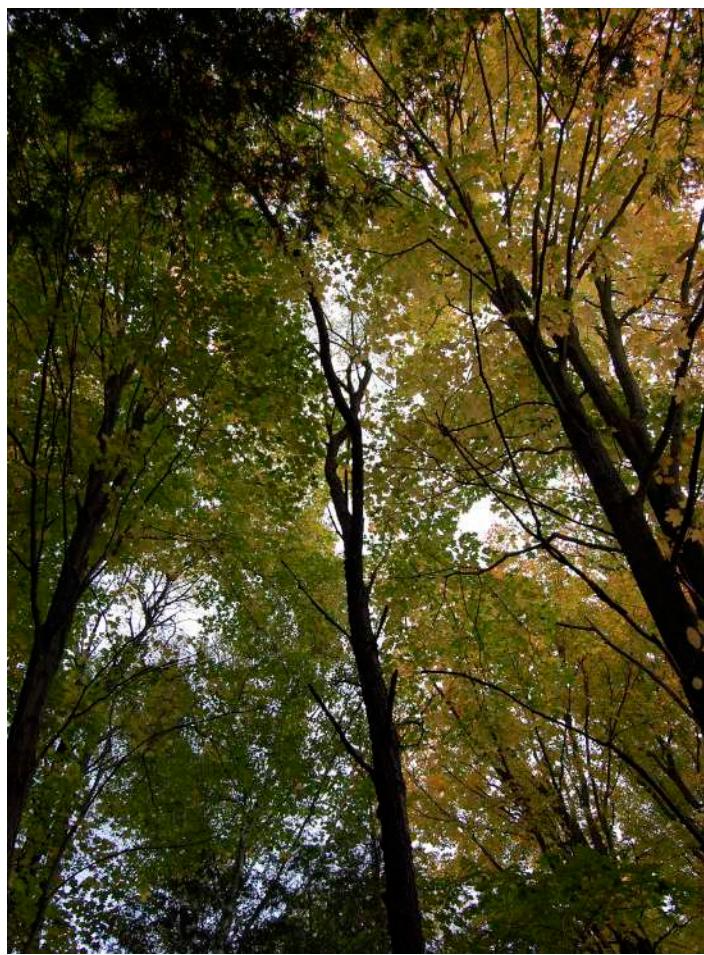
Just east of the Village of Alton lies a 350 acre treasure known as The Grange or Alton Grange Forest. A network of trails meander through the property, including the Bruce Trail's Alton Side Trail. At the south end of the property, the highland portion of the trail leads one through a deciduous canopy and a pine plantation. Strong maple, black cherry and pine trunks sway in the breeze - both young saplings and grand old ladies who have witnessed much in this ever-changing landscape. Travelling north, towering cedars line the banks of the main Credit River and its tributary, Shaw's Creek, which converge on the property. Meadows, mossy undergrowth and vast wetlands complete a diverse landscape that is well worth exploring. While the land's history goes back centuries, it is the last 40 to 70 years that have most significantly impacted the present environment.

In 1940, the property was purchased by E.R. Grange for use as a country retreat. Practicing good conservation methods, Grange gradually reforested a large tract of the land, which had previously been cleared for agricultural use. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) purchased the acreage in 1975 and made a number of improvements, including perimeter fencing and installation of several wooden bridges over the rivers. In the early 1990s, however, government funding dried up. As provincial interest and investment in the property dwindled, vandalism increased and the area became known as the 'local party place'. By the late 1990s, local volunteers decided to take up the cause. Forming The Alton Grange Association (AGA), they cleared large amounts of debris from the forest and lobbied with MNR to determine its future.



In 2002, after several years of hard work, the AGA signed a partnership agreement with the Province, allowing them to manage and maintain this unique and ecologically sensitive parcel of Crown land. This agreement is one of only two such partnerships in Ontario.

The AGA has since secured funding for bridge improvement and trail development. Volunteer groups have contributed their time to cleaning trails, managing wetlands, improving trout spawning grounds, and planting more than 10,000 trees to stabilize the river banks and extend wildlife corridors. Such volunteer efforts are a testament to both E.R. Grange's early conservation practices and the dedication and commitment of the Alton community to maintaining this natural heritage gem.



Species: Sugar Maple (Ward 1)

Nominated by: Heritage Caledon

Legends are stories, which never need truth to be interesting. There are two Iroquoian legends about who discovered maple sap. The first tells of a young boy who discovered the sweet and tasty sap that leaked from a sugar maple, after he had observed a squirrel licking moisture from a broken twig. The second tells of an Iroquois chief, whose wife collected ‘water’ from a maple tree, instead of the river, and used it to cook her husband’s meal. The chief smelled the odor of the sweet syrup as he returned home from a hunting trip and found the meal to be very tasty.

There is evidence the Indigenous peoples tapped trees for sap or sweetwater in Caledon. They collected the sap, by making a V-shaped gash in the trunk, inserting a piece of wood, allowing the sap to flow into birchbark baskets.

The rich Vitamin C content in the syrup assisted with the healing of “Spring Sickness” or scurvy, which many suffered after a long winter. Sweetwater was traded with the colonists, who were unfamiliar with the product. While maple trees grow in Europe, it is only in North America, where the climate is conducive to “sugaring-off” that syrup is made.

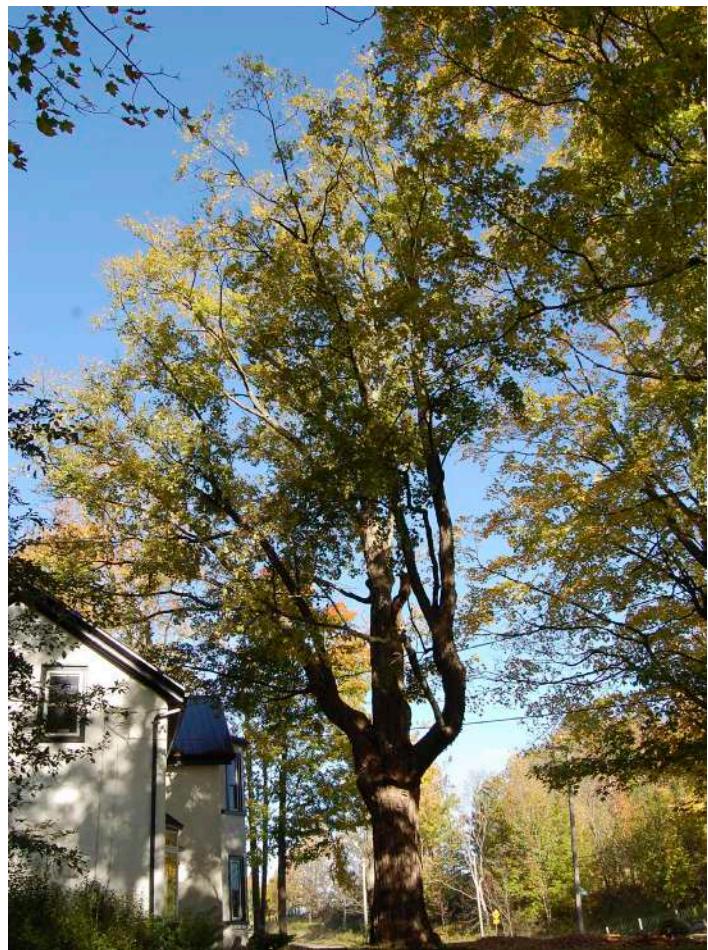
European settlers quickly adopted and adapted the First Nation’s tradition of collecting sap. Some of the settler’s traditional methods are still used today; albeit with newer and more modern methods to increase production.

The owner who purchased this property in 2003 enthusiastically started tapping the numerous sugar maples some years ago, making syrup for family and friends. The fresh sap is also a refreshing drink and samples of partially frozen syrup from his freezer were truly decadent.

The maple bush of about 400 trees is located south of the home. It is believed the bush area was originally used as a cow pasture, as it was too hilly to plant crops. The home’s laneway is lined with mature maples, which are also tapped for sap.

The most spectacular sugar maple is located in front of the home. It towers over the house, and with a diameter of 117 cm DBH is the second largest sugar maple that we’ve documented in Caledon. We suspect it was likely planted around the time the home was built in 1887 by Malcolm Ramsey who was a carpenter and builder living in Belfountain.





Species: Sugar Maple (Ward 1)

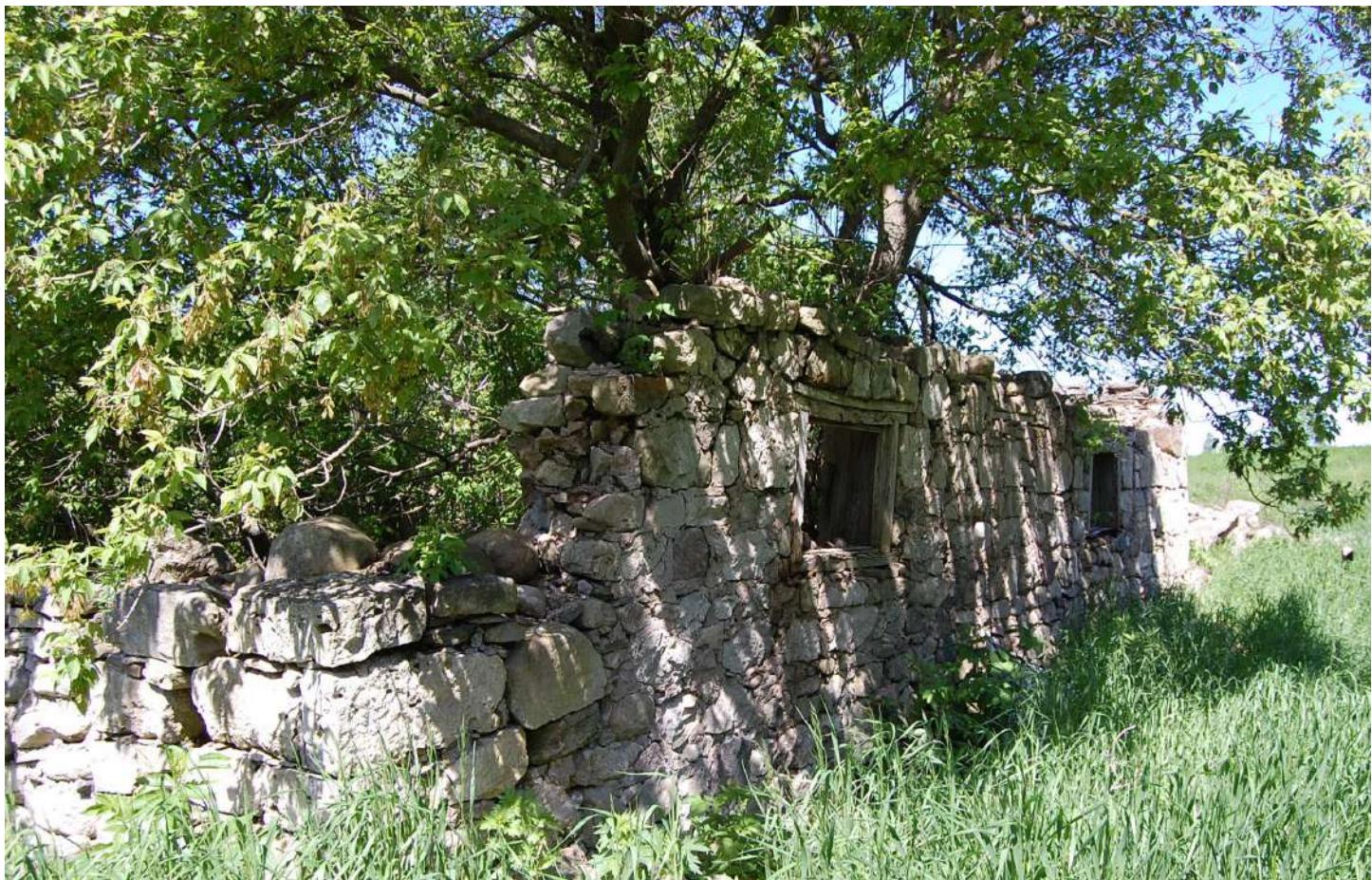
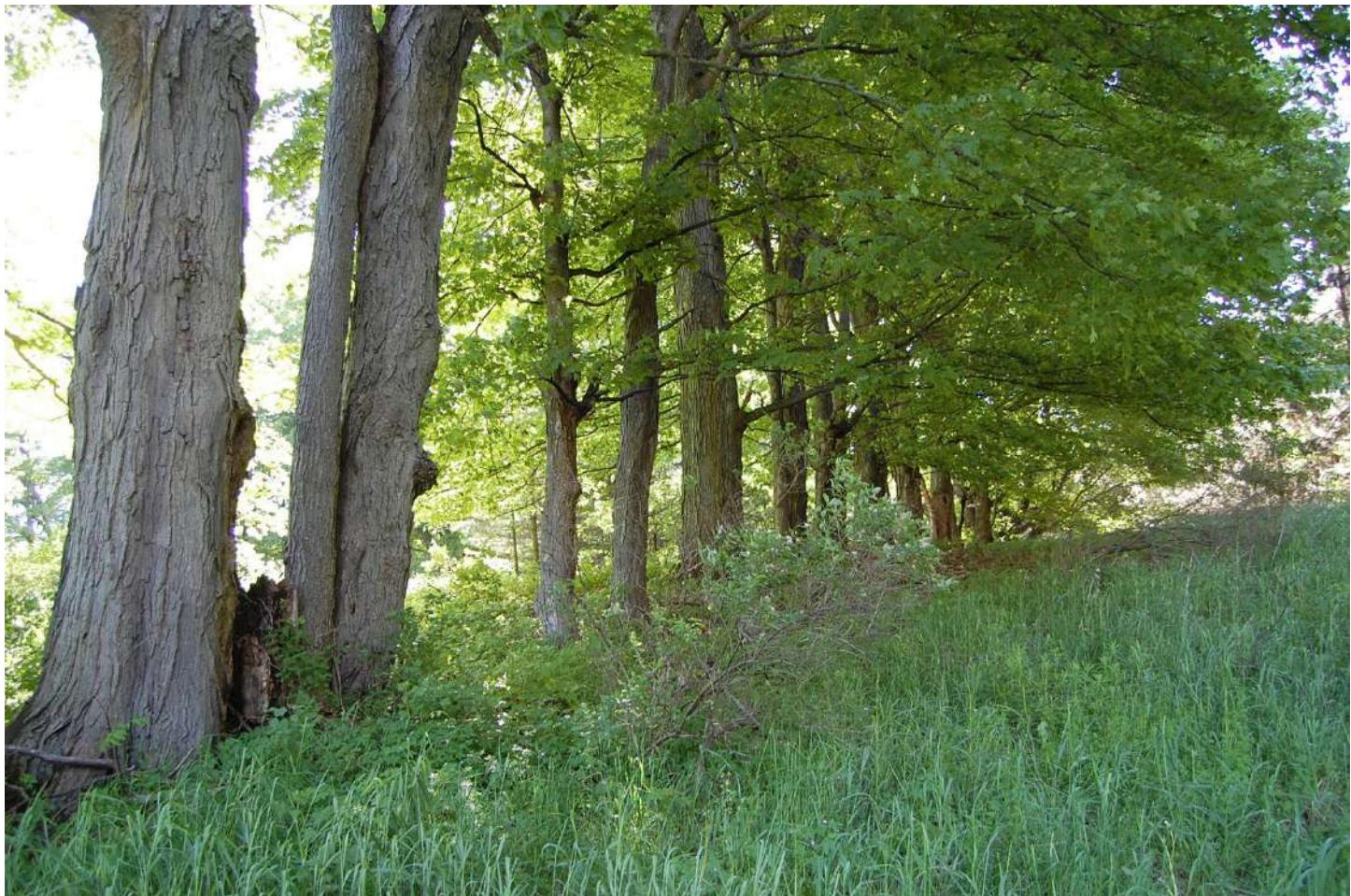
Nominated by Heritage Caledon

The 1877 map of this lot shows an orchard and two buildings, likely a house and barn, located down a long lane, yet within sight of the concession road. Settlers generally cleared the front part of their lot for agricultural or domestic use, while the rear portion was often left in bush for timber, firewood and maple sugaring. With the double-front system this meant that the heart of the 200 acre lot could remain quite wild.

Fields within properties were demarcated with a variety of fence types, including snake rail, cedar rail, stone or vegetation, to mark boundaries and create a barrier to the movement of livestock. Vegetation planted in fence-rows, hedgerows or windbreaks provides many benefits. Standing vegetation is a natural wind and snow break, provides shade for livestock and protects soil from erosion by both wind and water. Wide fencerows of mixed vegetation provide wildlife with food and shelter as well as a corridor for travel. A diverse variety of plants lure and support pollinators and assist farmers with a degree of insect control that rivals today's insecticides. Single row windbreaks are considered more suitable for the protection of high-value horticultural crops.

This farmstead was abandoned many years ago and all traces of both the home and orchard have disappeared. What remains is a crumbling barn foundation and several magnificent fencerows of mature maples, measuring from 41 to 92 cm DBH, surrounding an abandoned field, located just west of the buildings noted on the 1877 map. Sugar maples are a native tree to Ontario and grow in a variety of soils. They have a long lifespan, provide vibrant fall colour and are used to make maple syrup, a product settlers could use for themselves or sell as a commodity. Spring catkins and summer/fall seeds provide food for birds and mammals. While this farmstead's built resources have all but disappeared, its floral and fauna continue to thrive.





Species: Apple (Ward 4)

Nominated by: Heritage Caledon

A log home, built in 1836, has been incorporated into a larger more modern home occupied by Diane and her family. The beautifully refinished log walls, visible both inside and out are both a source of pride and a tribute to the original settlers. We suspect it was Thomas Johnson who built the first log home. Thomas sold the acreage to Jacob Mabee and his wife in 1860, and their descendants retained ownership until the early 1900s.

The 1861 Agricultural Census states that of the Mabee's 100 acre parcel, 40 acres were under cultivation, 40 acres were pasture land and 20 acres were deemed "wood or wild". They owned steers, "milch" cows, horses,



pigs, sheep and a colt/filly. The family sold hay, wheat, peas, oats, potatoes, and turnips in addition to byproducts such as wool, maple syrup, butter, beef and pork in barrels.

A number of trees planted on the property in the those early years still flourish today. A lone pine stands beside the barn, a number of magnificent multi stem silver maples tower over the home and a windbreak of five spruce trees, fondly referred to as "sentinels" shelter the home from the north wind.

An apple orchard located south of the home is clearly marked on the 1877 map of the area. When we first visited this property in 2012, two healthy apple trees estimated to be 150 years old, were all that remained of the original orchard. At that time, both trees still produced quite sour fruit which is used to make a great tasting apple wine. Sadly, one tree was destroyed by the 2013 ice storm. The other tree, located beside the gazebo continues to be a source of joy and pride for the family.